Section A: Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet

Read the following extract from the start of Act 5 Scene 3 of *Romeo and Juliet* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Juliet awakes to find Romeo has poisoned himself.

JULIET
Go, get thee hence, for I will not away.
He exits.
What's here? A cup closed in my true love's hand?
Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end.—
O churl, drunk all, and left no friendly drop
To help me after! I will kiss thy lips.
Haply some poison yet doth hang on them,
To make me die with a restorative.⌜She kisses him.⌝
Thy lips are warm!

Enter ⌜Paris's Page⌝ and Watch.

⌜FIRST⌝ WATCH Lead, boy. Which way?
JULIET
Yea, noise? Then I'll be brief. O, happy dagger,
This is thy sheath. There rust, and let me die.
⌜She takes Romeo's dagger, stabs herself, and dies.⌝

Starting with this extract, explore how Shakespeare presents fate versus free will in Romeo and Juliet.

Write about:
• how Shakespeare presents fate versus free will in this extract.
• how Shakespeare presents fate versus free will in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]