Works of literature will have many theme statements. A theme statement must be a *complete sentence*, not just a word or phrase. It must be supported with *examples from throughout the text*, not just one example. It *does not give advice*. It does not use the word **you**. It does not use the word **should** or **ought**.

To find a theme statement for *Romeo and Juliet*, take one of the chart topics and make it into a statement. What is the author trying to say about that topic?

*For example:* ***topic: conflict***

*Theme statement:*

***Long term unresolved conflict between families leads to disaster.***

***Death-Faith-Survival-Inhumanity-Silence-God-Family-Anger-and any others***