***Literature Paper 1, Section A = Shakespeare***

**Romeo and Juliet**

Read this extract from Act Three, Scene One of Romeo and Juliet and then answer the questions that follow.

In this extract, Benvolio is trying to persuade Mercutio to go home / get out of the streets of Verona.

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| **BENVOLIO:**  I pray thee, good Mercutio, let’s retire.  The day is hot; the Capulets, abroad;  And if we meet we shall not ’scape a brawl,  For now, these hot days, is the mad blood stirring.  **MERCUTIO:**  Thou art like one of those fellows that, when he enters the confines of a tavern, claps me his sword upon the table and says “God send me no need of thee!” and, by the operation of the second cup, draws it on the drawer when indeed there is no need.  **BENVOLIO**  Am I like such a fellow?  **MERCUTIO**  Come, come, thou art as hot a Jack  in thy mood as any in Italy, and as  soon moved to be moody, and as  soon moody to be moved. |

To what extent does Shakespeare always present Benvolio as peaceful and calm?

Write about:

* How Shakespeare presents Benvolio in this extract
* How Shakespeare presents Benvolio in the whole play.

(30 marks) + 4 marks