Glog Comparative Essay

Juliet was young when her love Romeo was banished. Juliet was also young when she killed herself because he was dead. Penelope was young when she was forced to marry Odysseus. Penelope and Juliet both lived their lives focused on love, but Penelope was older, and more rational than Juliet. Penelope had to take on the responsibility of caring for Ithaca in Odysseus’s absence. Could Juliet have taken Penelope’s place as queen of Ithaca?

Penelope was seventeen or eighteen when Odysseus left for Troy. At first she did not know what to do with herself, but she realized that she had to take care of Ithaca so that Odysseus would have something to come back to. Penelope took care of the estates until Odysseus returned, and grew his production of livestock and vegetation. She had to learn how to take care of an estate, and she was mostly self taught.

"Now I was running the vast estates of Odysseus all by myself. In no way had I been prepared for such a task, during my early life at Sparta” (Atwood 85). Penelope was a young princess. She was not ready to run Ithaca in Odysseus’s absence, but she had to. Odysseus’s mother died of grief, and Odysseus’s father banished himself to the mountains, leaving Penelope to run the estate on her own. Penelope had to teach herself
how to tend to the estate, and how to fend off suitors, While hearing about her husband
sleeping with suitors. Penelope was able to pull herself together for twenty years.

Juliet fell in love with Romeo when she was thirteen. She did not yet know what
love really was, and when Romeo was banished, she did not know what to do with
herself. She wanted to kill herself after an hour or two without him. Juliet tries to fake her
death so that she can run off with Romeo, but no one can reach Romeo to tell him that
Juliet is not really dead and that she is waiting for him. Romeo kills himself at her tomb,
and Juliet cannot cope with the thought that Romeo is dead. Juliet kills herself, which
shows that she was too young to really know what love is, and too young to know how
far to go when one is in love.

When Juliet hears she will marry Paris, she goes to Friar Lawrence to make a
plan. “Tell me not, friar, that thou hearest of this,/ unless thou tell me how i can prevent
it./ if in thy wisdom thou canst give no help/ do but call my resolution wise,/ and with this
knife I’ll help it presently.” (R&J IV. 1. 51-55). Juliet can not live without Romeo, and
would most likely not have been able to run an estate in his absence. Juliet was not able
to control her grief, and therefore would not have been able to

Penelope is seventeen when Odysseus left for Troy, and she is able to rule Ithaca
for twenty years in his absence. Penelope is older, and more mature than Juliet. She is
able to keep her head together even though Odysseus was away. Juliet was not able to
keep her head together when Romeo was banished. If Juliet had been put in Penelope’s
place she would most likely have killed herself. She would not have been able to put up
with not having anyone to talk to, and having to put aside her feelings so that she can
keep the estate running smoothly. If Penelope was in Juliet’s position she would probably marry Paris. She had to marry Odysseus even though at first she was not entirely happy with marrying him. In the *Odyssey* by Homer, and *The Penelopiad* by Atwood, Penelope learned that sometimes one has to sacrifice something one loves for freedom.

SOME VERY GOOD IDEAS, BUT THERE IS REPETITION GALORE. I THINK THE REASON FOR THAT IS YOU DON’T HAVE A WORKING THESIS. YOUR THESIS IS A STATEMENT OF FACT, WHICH DOESN’T BEG FOR ANALYSIS AND SPECULATION. WHAT IS MISSING IN J’S LOVE FOR R THAT P HAS FOR ODY? COULD JULIET HAVE TAKEN PENE’S PLACE AS QUEEN OF ITHACA? WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF PENE WERE A CAPULET? THESE ARE JUST POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS. IF YOU CAN COME UP WITH A BETTER THESIS, PLEASE FEEL FREE.