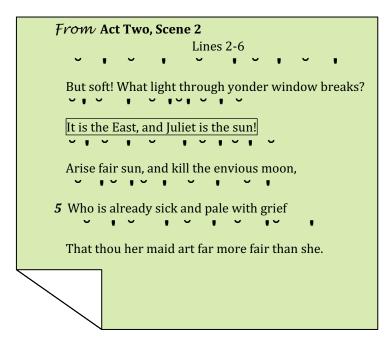
## **MODEL 1: BLANK VERSE**

The fact that Shakespeare wrote in verse should not intimidate you. Since iambic pentameter is fairly close to English speech patterns, it can be spoken naturally, without much awkwardness. Read the following excerpt aloud to get a feel for its rhythm.



## **Close Read**

- Reread the excerpt, tapping your foot at each stressed syllable. How many stressed syllables are in each line?
- 2. Point out a place where the pattern breaks. One example has been boxed. What ideas are emphasized by these variations in rhythm?