

Teacher Guide

Grades 9–12

Julius Caesar

William Shakespeare

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JULIUS CAESAR

by
William Shakespeare

Teacher Guide

Written by
Maureen Kirchhoefer, M.A.

Note

Most texts of *Julius Caesar* may be used with this guide as references are made by act, scene, and line number.

Please note: Please assess the appropriateness of this play for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with your class.

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- How does Antony appeal to the people's greed?
He refers to Caesar's will several times to whet their curiosity, then finally tells them what is in the will as the "clincher."
- How do lines 171-199 affect the crowd?
(Analyze this section line by line.)
- What does Antony keep saying about the conspirators?
that they are honorable
- Who arrives in Rome at the end of this scene, after Antony's speech?
Octavius Caesar
- What did Brutus and Cassius do while Antony was speaking?
They rode "like madmen" out of Rome.
What do you think they said to one another as they left town?

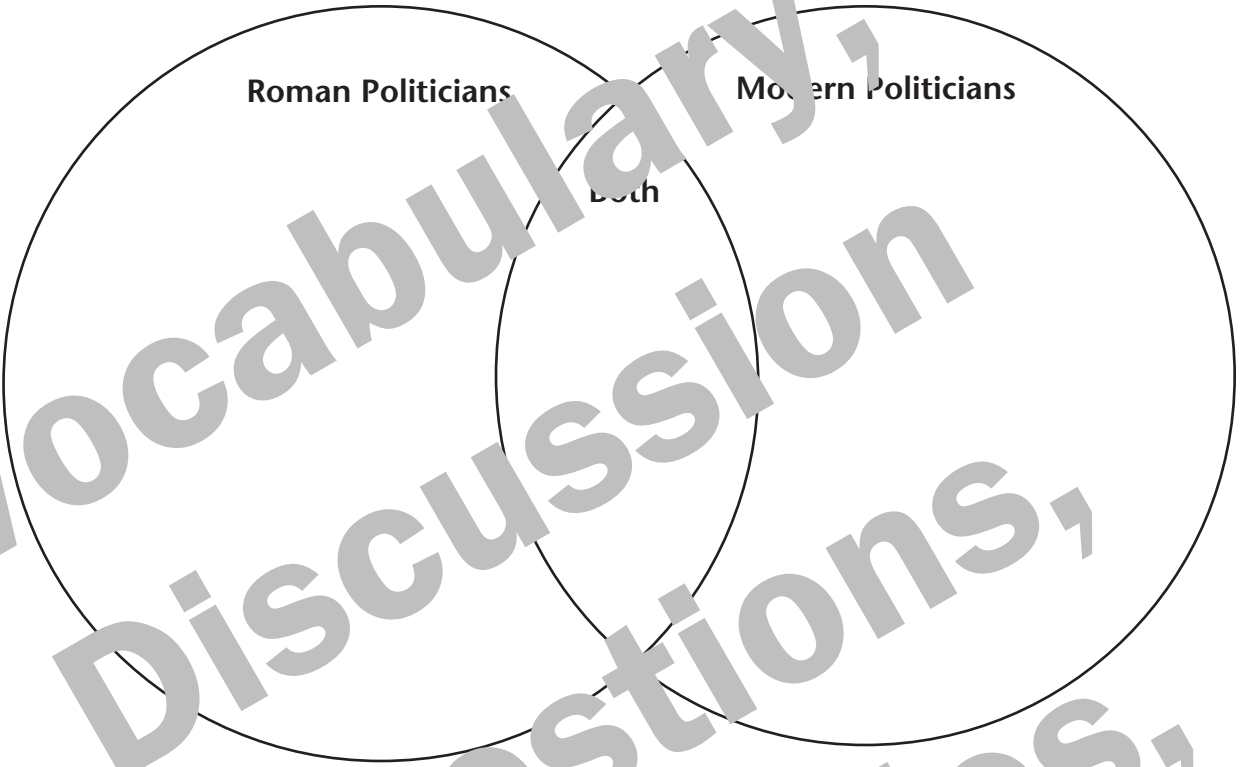
Scene ii
Level I

- Who is the Cinna in this scene?
a poet
- What happens to him?
The crowd kills him because he has the same name as one of the conspirators.

Scene iii
Level II

- Why do you think Shakespeare included this scene in the play?
to show the degree to which Antony had incited the crowd — they are now operating under mob rule
- Give an example of "mob rule" from modern life.

Act III Question for Writing: Antony said, "I am no orator, as Brutus is." Do you agree? Explain your answer by comparing the techniques used by the two speakers to try to win the crowd to their way of thinking.



Have the students consider the following when completing the diagram.

1. What motivated Roman politicians? What motivates modern politicians?
2. Discuss and list methods used to obtain goals.
3. List items unique to Romans or modern politicians in their circles.
4. List items both groups have in common in the overlapping area.

Attribute Web

The attribute web below is designed to help you gather clues the author provides about what a character is like. Fill in the blanks with words and phrases which tell how the character acts and looks, as well as what the character says and what others say about him or her.

Acts

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Feels

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Character

Looks

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Says

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Dramatic Plot Map (Melodrama or Tragedy)

