

# Julius Caesar - Lecture Notes Act 1

## Scene 1 - Pgs. 777-779

The play opens in the streets of Rome, where people are celebrating Caesar's return home from another victorious battle. A conversation is taking place between two tribunes (military men) named \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. At the beginning of the play, Flavius sets a \_\_\_\_\_ tone.

They are speaking to two commoners whose professions are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. How do the commoners react to the questioning and ridicule of the tribunes? \_\_\_\_\_. Shakespeare uses several puns in the first scene. A pun is when a word is used in a way so it can have \_\_\_\_\_ meanings. An example of pun in this scene is \_\_\_\_\_.

The commoners view Caesar as a \_\_\_\_\_, while the tribunes see Caesar as a \_\_\_\_\_. They are upset because Caesar just defeated \_\_\_\_\_ who was once a respected Roman leader. They tell the commoners to go home and mourn the death of \_\_\_\_\_ and set out to break up the celebrations throughout the streets. They fear Caesar is \_\_\_\_\_.

## Scene 2 - Pgs. 779-789

Calphurnia is Caesar's \_\_\_\_\_. We learn that Calphurnia is \_\_\_\_\_. What kind of relationship do Caesar and Marc Antony have? \_\_\_\_\_. A "soothsayer" is a \_\_\_\_\_. The soothsayer warns Caesar to \_\_\_\_\_, which is \_\_\_\_\_. Caesar, though, does not heed his warning. The soothsayer foreshadows \_\_\_\_\_.

Caesar leaves with his posse to address the crowd. Brutus admits to Cassius that \_\_\_\_\_ Caesar to be their King, but says that \_\_\_\_\_ is more important to him than \_\_\_\_\_. Cassius gives a long speech to convince Brutus to turn on Caesar. His main arguments are \_\_\_\_\_.

**(Pgs. 782-785)** Cassius further tries to convince Brutus to join in on the assassination by asking him why the name "Brutus" should carry any less weight than the name "Caesar." What facts does Cassius use to persuade Brutus in this speech? \_\_\_\_\_ . Brutus replies by saying he'll consider what Cassius says and that he'd rather \_\_\_\_\_ .

**(Pgs. 785-788)** Caesar and his posse return. Caesar tells Antony that he is suspicious that \_\_\_\_\_ might be dangerous. Antony says Cassius is \_\_\_\_\_. Caesar dismisses it by saying that Cassius \_\_\_\_\_ then exits the stage.

Brutus pulls Casca aside to ask him \_\_\_\_\_. Casca says Antony offered Caesar \_\_\_\_\_ three times, but Caesar \_\_\_\_\_. Casca believed though that Caesar \_\_\_\_\_. When Caesar realized the people were \_\_\_\_\_ that he turned down the crown, he offered them to \_\_\_\_\_ then he \_\_\_\_\_. Caesar got back to his feet and told the crowd if he said anything bad, it was due to his illness. The wench \_\_\_\_\_ . Then Caesar went back inside.

The scene ends with a soliloquy by Cassius in which he says that he doesn't believe he has said enough to completely convince Brutus so he decides to \_\_\_\_\_ and send them to Brutus.

### **Scene 3 Pgs. 789-795**

The scene takes place one month later and opens with Cicero and Casca on the street in a thunder and lightning storm. The storm represents the \_\_\_\_\_ state of Rome. Casca tells Cassius that the Senators are planning to \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow. Upon hearing this, Cassius threatens \_\_\_\_\_. Cinna enters and the three organize the assassination plan and scheme to fully convince Brutus to join them.