

NAME: _____

Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

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Act I.i Study Guide

Act I.i

Directions: Answer each question in a complete sentence. This is individual work.

1. Who are the tribunes, and what is their attitude towards the commoners?

2. What literary device (simile, metaphor, personification, pun, etc?) does the second commoner use in line 14? Identify the meaning of the joke he makes.

3. What is the Feast of Lupercal? (*Hint: Look at the foot notes or even "Google" this.)

4. Why do Marullus and Flavius believe the commoners should have a guilty conscience?

5. In Marullus' speech (lines 32-55) :
 - How does Marullus insult the commoners?

 - According to Marullus, what did the commoners once think about Pompey?

 - How does Marullus want the commoners to treat Caesar?

6. Flavius states:
"These growing feathers pluk'd from Caesar's wing
Will make him fly an ordinary pitch" (I.i. 72-73)

Identify the metaphor and its implication of Caesar in the previously stated line.

Act I.ii

1. Who is Calpurnia?
2. Why does Caesar ask Antony to touch Calpurnia during the race of the Lupercal celebration? (Act I.ii. 6)
3. Of what does the Soothsayer warn Caesar, and why? (Be specific)? (Act I.ii. 19)
4. What change in Brutus has Cassius observed? (Act I.ii. 32)
5. In line 60, Cassius refers to Caesar as immortal. Why does he say this, and what is the purpose of his speech to Brutus (lines 66-78).
6. Beginning at line 90, Cassius makes a long speech to Brutus. What does Cassius say about Caesar's strength compared to other mortals? What is he trying to convince Brutus of?
7. In lines 135-136, what does Cassius compare Caesar to, and why?
8. In line 156, Cassius uses a pun. Identify and explain it.
9. What does Casca tell Brutus and Cassius about Caesar at the forum?(Act I.ii. 249)
10. In lines 245-247, Cassius tells a joke. Identify the joke and explain it.
11. What happens to Marullus and Flavius?

Act I.iii

1. What day is it when this scene begins?

2. Casca makes a speech. What are at least three strange events he noticed happening at the Capitol? (lines 15-30)
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

3. In line 49, what adjective would you use to describe Cassius' actions, and why?

4. Explain the meaning of Cassius' speech in lines 57-78.

5. Cassius says, "Cassius from bondage will deliver Cassius." What does he mean? (Line 90).

6. What does Cassius claim is the only reason for Caesar's strength? (Line 105)

7. In lines 111-114, why does Cassius fear he spoke too freely to Casca?

8. In lines 128-130, what does the sky foreshadow?

9. What request does Cassius make of Cinna at the end of the scene?