

**LESSON NOTES****School: Ba Sangam College****Year/Level: 12****Name: _____****Subject: English****Worksheet 16****Year: _____**

Strand	Reading and Viewing
Sub Strand	Communication Text Types – media, everyday communication, literary texts
Content Learning Outcome	Read and demonstrate understanding of a variety of complex texts.

LITERATURE – DRAMA – JULIUS CAESAR – BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**Act II, Scene 1****Brutus Makes His Decision****Sequence of events**

- That very night a terrible storm rages through Rome.
- Terror- stricken , Casca relates to Cicero the supernatural events which have occurred: fire raining from the sky, the earth quaking and ripping open graves, a lion passing Casca near the Capitol without harming him, and an owl hooting at noon.
- Brutus' servant enters with a letter that he has discovered near the window. Brutus reads the letter, which accuses him of sleeping while Rome is threatened. Brutus interprets the letter as a protest against Caesar.
- A knock comes at the door. Brutus's servant announces Cassius and a group of men —the conspirators. They include Casca, Decius, Cinna, Metellus, and Trebonius.
- The group discusses whether it should try to bring the esteemed Cicero into the conspiracy, for he would bring good public opinion to their schemes, but Brutus dissuades them, pointing out that Cicero would never follow anyone else's ideas.
- Cassius states that no one knows whether Caesar will come to the Capitol that day, since the warnings of the soothsayer after this brutal evening might keep him at home. But Decius assures the others that he will be able to convince Caesar to ignore his superstitions by flattering his bravery. The conspirators depart, Brutus suggesting that they try to behave like actors and hide their true feelings.

- Brutus's wife, Portia, enters the garden. She wonders what has been worrying Brutus, for his behavior has been strange. He says that he has felt unwell
- Brutus replies that he wishes he were worthy of such an honorable wife.

Questions (5 marks)

1. *Discuss Brutus' nature with regards to the incidents in this chapter.*

2. *Name the 8 conspirators.*

3. *Why does Cassius suggest that they should kill Antony along with Caesar?*

4. *What reason does Brutus give, as to why they should not kill Mark Antony?*

5. *Why are the conspirators in doubt of Caesar's attendance to the capitol?*
