

**LESSON NOTES****School: Ba Sangam College****Year/Level: 12****Name: _____****Subject: English****Worksheet 19****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 III, Scene 1****The Murder of Caesar****Sequence of Events**

- This scene begins outside the senate house. Caesar is making his way to the Capitol accompanied by Antony, Lepidus and the other conspirators.
- Two attempts are made to warn Caesar. The soothsayer reminds him that Ides of March have come but not gone. Artemidorus tries to hand him the warning but it is brushed aside.
- Inside the senate house, Metellus Cimber pleads for the freedom of his brother, Publius, but Caesar rudely tells him that he is inflexible in his decisions and then turning to the senators he compares himself with the northern star (which never changes its position.)
- Caesar thus loses the sympathy of the senators and Casca chooses this moment to strike Caesar, quickly followed by the rest of the conspirators.
- There is panic and confusion in the house and Brutus pacifies the shocked senators by declaring that 'ambition's debt is paid'.
- The conspirators then smear their hands with Caesar's blood up to the elbows and also besmear their swords to mark this important occasion.
- Mark Antony's servant arrives and requests that his master be given guarantee of safety so that he could come to the senate house and learn why Caesar deserved to die.

- Although Cassius is unhappy about this, Brutus ignores his warnings and assures the servant his master is most welcome.
- When Antony enters, he makes an attempt to hide his grief and addresses Caesar's dead body. He then asks for an explanation for Caesar's murder and requests permission to speak at the funeral.
- Brutus agrees to these requests although once again Cassius warns without success that Antony should not be trusted.
- Once the conspirators have departed, Antony makes a prophecy over Caesar's corpse that he will seek revenge on the conspirators for this bloody deed.

Questions

1. *What does Caesar mean by 'Et tu, Brute'? (1 mark)*

2. *Why does Antony apologize to Caesar's corpse? (1 mark)*

Act III, Scene 11

The Orations of Brutus and Antony

Sequence of Events

- Brutus and Cassius enter the Forum, with citizens demanding satisfaction. They divide the crowd — Cassius leading off one portion to hear his argument, and Brutus presenting reasons to those remaining behind at the Forum.
- Brutus asks the citizens to contain their emotions until he has finished, to bear in mind that he is honorable, and to use their reason in order to judge him.
- He then sets before them his reasons for the murder of Caesar and the citizens are convinced and at the end of his oration, cheer him with emotion. He then directs them to listen to Antony's funeral oration.
- Antony indicates that, like Brutus, he will deliver a reasoned oration. He refers to Brutus' accusation that Caesar was ambitious, acknowledges that he speaks with "honorable truth" seeks Brutus' permission, and proceeds to counter all of Brutus' arguments.

- The mob leaves to cremate Caesar's body with due reverence, and to burn the houses of the assassins.
- A servant enters and informs Antony that Octavius has arrived and is with Lepidus at Caesar's house. Antony is pleased and decides to visit him immediately to plan to take advantage of the chaos he has created.
- The servant reports that Brutus and Cassius have fled Rome, and Antony suspects that they have heard of his rousing the people to madness.

Questions

1. *In his speech, Brutus does not provide proof for Caesar's ambition, so why does the crowd accept his reasons? (1 mark)*

Act III, Scene 3

The Mob Murder

- Shows how a mob will behave when driven to fury.
- The Romans in their maddened state of mind burn and destroy whatever they get hold of.
- In their rage and hatred, they attack and kill Cinna the poet.

Questions

1. *What aspect of human nature is Shakespeare highlighting in this scene? (2 marks)*
