

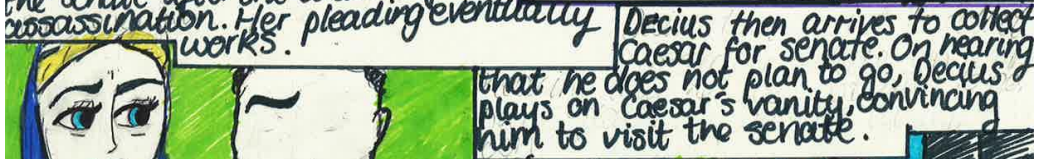


# **MARR COLLEGE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**Study Strategies to  
Support Literacy**

Brutus considers Caesar...

Cassius Brutus



# Story Boarding

- ✓ Organising Information
- ✓ Sequencing
- ✓ Understanding Processes
- ✓ Understanding dialogue
- ✓ Understanding Character

# Study Cards

**Context:** Mary's view of Charlie

**Quotation/Evidence:** *“Nevertheless she often thought and sometimes said, with a little asperity, that she didn't have two children, she had three.”*

**Analysis:** Mary's thoughts about Charlie **indicate** that she finds her husband to be immature at times and use of the word 'asperity' suggests that she can resent Charlie for his lack of emotional maturity.

**Evaluation:** As a reader it's **difficult** to respect the character of Charlie when we learn how naïve and idealistic he is. Knowledge of Mary's thoughts **evoke a sympathy** for her but also a **pity** for Charlie.

# ACTV

Tensions between Octavius and Antony become clearer to the audience, with Octavius disobeying Antony's battle orders in a vain attempt to prove his worthiness as a part of the Triumvirate

Cassius, believing Titinius to have been killed whilst carrying out an errand set by him, orders his servant to stab him with the same sword Caesar was killed with.

Antony seeks Brutus for the same and his crusade is brought to a halt as Lucilius remains loyally. Lucilius is completely unwilling to publicize Brutus's whereabouts to the eager

Ridden with guilt, Titinius mirrors Cassius' final actions whereby he stabs himself with the sword. Brutus delivers a noble, final farewell to his friends, and comes to the startling conclusion that he must now fight Antony head-on; and win.

Brutus begins hunting at the suicide, and upon realising the battle, chooses to impale himself in his own sword and thus

reasoning in Caesar's  
taking a may in explanation, by spirat explaining ac

## Time Line

- ✓ Organising Information
- ✓ Sequencing
- ✓ Understanding Processes

# Summarising

## Act IV *Julius Caesar*

Antony meets Octavius and Lepidus at his house. They review a list of names, deciding who must be killed. Lepidus agrees to the death of his brother if Antony will agree to allow his nephew to be killed. Antony suggests that, as a way of saving money, they examine Caesar's will to see if they can redirect some of his funds. Lepidus departs, and Antony asks Octavius if Lepidus is a **worthy man to rule Rome alongside them**. Octavius replies that he trusts him, but Antony **harbours doubts**. Octavius points out that Lepidus is a "tried and valiant soldier," to which Antony responds, "So is my horse": he goes onto compare Lepidus to a mere animal, calling him a "barren-spirited fellow and a mere tool (IV.i.28-38). Antony now turns the conversation to Brutus and Cassius, who are reportedly gathering an army; it falls to Octavius and Antony to confront them and halt their bid for power.

- ✓ **Main Points (not minor points)**
- ✓ **In own words (to show understanding)**

# Mnemonics / Acronyms



**C**ontrolling

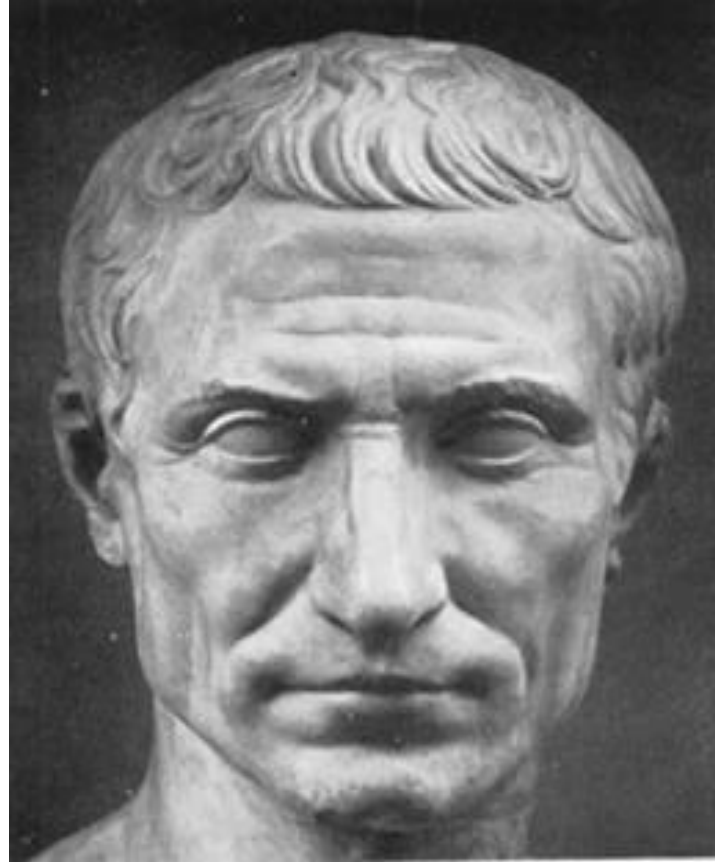
**A**mbitious

**E**gotistic

**S**trong

**A**fraid

**R**oyal





# ACT III

## 1) Caesar Speaks to Senate

"Are we all ready? What is now amiss that Caesar and his Senate must redress?"

- Use of possessive "his" shows Caesar's ambitious side and that he believes the senate belongs to him.
- Conveys theme of power and ambition.
- Perhaps suggests that he not being in power is a problem needing solved – linking to Decius Brutus suggestion of him becoming King

## 2) Caesar is Assassinated

"Et tu, Brute? – Then fall Caesar" **TURNING POINT OF PLAY**

- Makes Caesar seem noble in death – he is accepting his fate due to his undying faith in Brutus' good judgement. Brutus thinks he should be killed he should
- Et tu, Brute? His initial shock of seeing Brutus amongst the conspirators
- Then fall Caesar – his acceptance
- The audience's view on Caesar changes – we feel sympathy and admiration for Caesar
- Theme of honour is conveyed as well as the character of Caesar being explored.
- Relationship between Caesar and Brutus also explored.

## 3) Antony Tricks the Conspirators

"I doubt not of your wisdom"

- The pause before shows Antony considering what to say – shows his insincerity as he has to think before he gives a compliment
- He is very flattering towards them, almost in a patronising way and makes it seem he agrees with the way they think and what they have done even though he doesn't.
- Does this in order to be allowed to speak at the Funeral – has a plan

## 8) Cinna the Poet is killed

"Tear him, tear him!"

- Despite knowing that Cinna the poet is not a conspirator the crowd choose to attack Cinna
- This emphasises the time of unrest in Rome and shows how angry the people of Rome are over the death of Caesar.
- Tear him – has connotations of savages

## 4) Antony Grieves for Caesar

"Thy heart is big, get thee apart and weep."

- Shows how strong a relationship Antony and Caesar has – and how loyal a character Antony is
- Dramatic Irony – confirms to the audience that Antony does not agree with the conspirators and enlists their interest towards what is going to happen next
- Conveys theme of friendship

## 7) People of Rome turn against the Conspirators

"We'll burn his body in the holy place and with the brands fire the traitors' houses."

- Antony has successfully convinced the crowd that Caesar was not a threat and that the conspirators killed him not for the good of Rome
- Irony – Conspirators have supposedly killed Caesar for his ambition, but it may be for theirs
- The crowds immediately turn to violence – showing how volatile the situation in Rome is
- "Fire" – this has been used as an omen in previous scenes – is it becoming true?

## 5) Brutus Addresses the People of Rome

"Be patient till the last. Romans, countrymen and lovers hear me for my case."

## 6) Antony Addresses the Same Crowd

"Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears!"

- Addresses the crowd as friends, before fellow Romans. This makes the crowd feel closer to Antony than Brutus
- Lend me your ears – isn't ordering the crowd to listen – is asking it as a favour making the crowd feel it is their decision and opinion that counts
- Again a persuasive technique
- Unlike Brutus, seems to be pushing for Civil War

"Be patient" – order – Brutus is determined to get the people of Rome to believe what he has done was for the good of Rome. He is asking them to hear all he has to say.  
"Romans" – shows Brutus sees the people of Rome as fellow citizens, makes them feel included – shows his honourable character  
"Countrymen, lovers" – again emphasises how the people of Rome are equals to him – make the audience feel further included  
Persuasive technique

For if thou path, thy native semblance on,  
Not Erebus itself were dim enough  
To hide thee from prevention.

- This is foreshadowing as Brutus is saying that hell itself is not dark enough to hide them of the sin they about to commit.
- Highlights Brutus' uncertainty;
- However wants to proceed with the assassination as of his patriotism towards Rome.
- Doing it as he thinks it's the right thing to do: honour, duty and friendship.

Caesar's arm after Caesar's head is cut off.

- Cassius's foreshadowing of Antony's potential rebellion solution was to kill him
- However Brutus says no- dramatic irony as this does occur.
- Links in with Brutus' honour and not want to give him a bad name.

Where to the climber upward turns his face.  
But when he once attains the upmost round,  
He then unto the ladder turns his back,  
Looks in the clouds, scorning the base degrees  
By which he did ascend.

- Brutus is saying that prior his ambition was alright but now once getting to the top, he has not stopped climbing; and soon he will think he is more superior to everyone.
- Linking in with the themes of Caesar's overpowering ambition and his thirst for power.

Meeting with the conspirators

Brutus's deliberation  
the death of Caesar

Brutus

That at his will he may do danger with

- Brutus can see that by crowning Caesar it will give him the opportunity to do damage.
- 'May' show that he still thinks that Caesar might not do what he is capable in doing.
- However with Brutus' decision reached we can see that this is dubious in Brutus' eyes. Links to themes of ambition and power

Giving myself a voluntary wound  
Here in the thigh. Can I bear that with patience,  
And not my husband's secrets?

- This emphasises how close she thinks her relationship with Brutus is;
- She is showing that the pain caused by self harming does not hurt nearly as much as the pain caused by her husband not sharing his secrets.
- Effectively demonstrating her love and loyalty towards her husband.
- This demonstrates how prior to this they shared everything and this is why it is taking such a big toll on her.

It will not let you eat nor talk nor sleep,  
And could it work so much upon your shape  
As it hath much prevailed on your condition  
I should not know you

- Illustrates the bond shared between Brutus and Portia as she can see that is something clearly wrong with him;
- Saying it has affected him so much that he barely even recognises him

And therefore think him as a serpent's egg—  
Which, hatched, would as his kind grow mischievous—  
And kill him in the shell.

- Brutus is comparing Caesar to a serpent.
- Just as when a serpent has hatched and grown to its full potential it can become lethal;
- Caesar when he becomes king will put all of Rome in danger.
- Brutus' decision is clear- he has to kill Caesar before he becomes king as of his patriotism towards Rome and he finds it his duty to protect them.



# Three Shares

Encourages evaluation / engagement

- 1) **Something they liked / disliked / made them interested**
- 2) **Something that puzzled them / made them curious**
- 3) **A connection they have made. (To anything)**

# Compare and Contrast

## Similarities and Differences

### Mark Antony's Speech

*"Friends, Romans, countrymen"* – Antony shows that he considers the crowd as friends, before fellow romans. Makes him appear more relatable than Brutus. Makes the crowds feel valued.

*"I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him."* – Defending Caesar is not in his intentions, doesn't want to appear argumentative with Brutus' speech. Makes his word less bias. He uses very effective words and techniques to ensure that the crowd are on his side.

*"noble Brutus"* – By complementing Brutus he again shows that he doesn't disagree with him, despite doing so. This again helps to persuade the crown to join his side as he appears to be a very noble and caring man.

### Brutus' Speech

*"Romans, countrymen, lovers"* – this mirrors what Mark Antony says, again, showing that the crowds are valued highly by the speaker.

*"your wisdom" "your senses"* – Brutus involves the crowd in his speech, again, making them feel valued and to persuade them to join his side of the argument.

*"Had you rather Caesar were living and die all slaves than that Caesar were dead, to live all freemen?"* – He is arguing that the death of Caesar with release the people of Rome from chains of slavery. He is already taking up Caesar's role in Rome. He is again using persuasive techniques to win over the people of Rome.

**Follow us...**



**@MarrEnglish**