### **ACT III, SCENE 2. The Forum.**

What is the mood of the crowd as the scene opens?

*Enter BRUTUS and CASSIUS, and a throng of Citizens*

**Citizens**

We will be satisfied; let us be satisfied.

**BRUTUS**

Then follow me, and give me audience, friends.

Cassius, go you into the other street,

And part the numbers.

Those that will hear me speak, let 'em stay here;

Those that will follow Cassius, go with him;

And public reasons shall be rendered

Of Caesar's death.

**First Citizen**

I will hear Brutus speak.

**Second Citizen**

I will hear Cassius; and compare their reasons,

When severally we hear them rendered.

*Exit CASSIUS, with some of the Citizens. BRUTUS goes into the pulpit*

What quality of Brutus does he say is the reason the crowd should listen to him?

**Third Citizen**

The noble Brutus is ascended: silence!

**BRUTUS**

Summarize first 6 lines:

Be patient till the last.

Romans, countrymen, and lovers! hear me for my

cause, and be silent, that you may hear: believe me

for mine honour, and have respect to mine honour, that

What does Brutus’ use of parallelism emphasize here?

you may believe: censure me in your wisdom, and

awake your senses, that you may the better judge.

Summarize next 4 ½ lines:

If there be any in this assembly, any dear friend of

Caesar's, to him I say, that Brutus' love to Caesar

was no less than his. If then that friend demand

why Brutus rose against Caesar, this is my answer:

--Not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved

Rome more. Had you rather Caesar were living and

Summarize next 7 lines:

What does Brutus’ use of parallelism emphasize here?

die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live

all free men? As Caesar loved me, I weep for him;

as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it; as he was

valiant, I honour him: but, as he was ambitious, I

slew him. There is tears for his love; joy for his

fortune; honour for his valour; and death for his

Summarize last 6 lines:

ambition. Who is here so base that would be a

bondman? If any, speak; for him have I offended.

Who is here so rude that would not be a Roman? If

What does Brutus’ use of parallelism emphasize here?

any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so

vile that will not love his country? If any, speak;

for him have I offended. I pause for a reply.

**All**

None, Brutus, none.

**BRUTUS**

Then none have I offended. I have done no more to

Caesar than you shall do to Brutus. The question of

How is Brutus’s characterization reinforced here?

Summarize this section of Brutus’s speech:

his death is enrolled in the Capitol; his glory not

extenuated, wherein he was worthy, nor his offences

enforced, for which he suffered death.

*Enter ANTONY and others, with CAESAR's body*

Here comes his body, mourned by Mark Antony: who,

though he had no hand in his death, shall receive

the benefit of his dying, a place in the

commonwealth; as which of you shall not? With this

I depart,--that, as I slew my best lover for the

good of Rome, I have the same dagger for myself,

when it shall please my country to need my death.

**All**

Live, Brutus! live, live!

What is the mood of the crowd following Brutus’s speech?

**First Citizen**

Bring him with triumph home unto his house.

**Second Citizen**

Give him a statue with his ancestors.

**Third Citizen**

Let him be Caesar.

**Fourth Citizen**

Caesar's better parts

Shall be crown'd in Brutus.

**First Citizen**

We'll bring him to his house

With shouts and clamours.

**BRUTUS**

My countrymen,--

**Second Citizen**

Peace, silence! Brutus speaks.

**First Citizen**

Peace, ho!

**BRUTUS**

What character trait does Brutus demonstrate by leaving Antony alone to speak to the crowd?

Good countrymen, let me depart alone,

And, for my sake, stay here with Antony:

Do grace to Caesar's corpse, and grace his speech

Tending to Caesar's glories; which Mark Antony,

By our permission, is allow'd to make.

I do entreat you, not a man depart,

Save I alone, till Antony have spoke.

*Exit*

**First Citizen**

Stay, ho! and let us hear Mark Antony.

**Third Citizen**

Let him go up into the public chair;

We'll hear him. Noble Antony, go up.

**ANTONY**

For Brutus' sake, I am beholding to you.

*Goes into the pulpit*

**Fourth Citizen**

What does he say of Brutus?

**Third Citizen**

He says, for Brutus' sake,

How does the crowd seem to feel about Antony as he arrives to speak?

He finds himself beholding to us all.

**Fourth Citizen**

'Twere best he speak no harm of Brutus here.

**First Citizen**

This Caesar was a tyrant.

**Third Citizen**

Nay, that's certain:

We are blest that Rome is rid of him.

**Second Citizen**

Peace! let us hear what Antony can say.

**ANTONY**

You gentle Romans,--

**Citizens**

Peace, ho! let us hear him.

**ANTONY**

Summarize first 11 lines:

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;

What is the effect of Antony’s constant repetition of the statement that Brutus is an honorable man?

I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

The evil that men do lives after them;

The good is oft interred with their bones;

So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus

Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:

If it were so, it was a grievous fault,

And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.

Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest--

For Brutus is an honourable man;

So are they all, all honourable men--

Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.

Summarize next 11 lines:

He was my friend, faithful and just to me:

But Brutus says he was ambitious;

And Brutus is an honourable man.

He hath brought many captives home to Rome

Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill:

What is the effect of Antony’s constant repetition of the statement that Caesar was ambitious?

Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?

When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept:

Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:

Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;

And Brutus is an honourable man.

Summarize next 5 lines:

You all did see that on the Lupercal

I thrice presented him a kingly crown,

Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?

Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;

And, sure, he is an honourable man.

I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,

Summarize last 8 lines:

But here I am to speak what I do know.

You all did love him once, not without cause:

What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him?

O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts,

And men have lost their reason. Bear with me;

What is Antony’s tone throughout the speech?

My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,

And I must pause till it come back to me.

**First Citizen**

Methinks there is much reason in his sayings.

**Second Citizen**

If thou consider rightly of the matter,

Caesar has had great wrong.

**Third Citizen**

How does the crowd seem to be affected by Antony’s words?

Has he, masters?

I fear there will a worse come in his place.

**Fourth Citizen**

Mark'd ye his words? He would not take the crown;

Therefore 'tis certain he was not ambitious.

**First Citizen**

If it be found so, some will dear abide it.

**Second Citizen**

Poor soul! his eyes are red as fire with weeping.

**Third Citizen**

There's not a nobler man in Rome than Antony.

**Fourth Citizen**

Now mark him, he begins again to speak.

**ANTONY**

Summarize the first 10 lines:

But yesterday the word of Caesar might

What is Antony’s tone as he refers to Brutus and Cassius?

Have stood against the world; now lies he there.

And none so poor to do him reverence.

O masters, if I were disposed to stir

Your hearts and minds to mutiny and rage,

I should do Brutus wrong, and Cassius wrong,

Who, you all know, are honourable men:

I will not do them wrong; I rather choose

To wrong the dead, to wrong myself and you,

Than I will wrong such honourable men.

Summarize the first 10 lines:

But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar;

I found it in his closet, 'tis his will:

What is Antony’s purpose in mentioning the will?

Let but the commons hear this testament--

Which, pardon me, I do not mean to read--

And they would go and kiss dead Caesar's wounds

And dip their napkins in his sacred blood,

Yea, beg a hair of him for memory,

And, dying, mention it within their wills,

Bequeathing it as a rich legacy

Unto their issue.

**Fourth Citizen**

We'll hear the will: read it, Mark Antony.

**All**

The will, the will! we will hear Caesar's will.

**ANTONY**

Have patience, gentle friends, I must not read it;

It is not meet you know how Caesar loved you.

You are not wood, you are not stones, but men;

How is Antony manipulating the crowd in these passages?

And, being men, bearing the will of Caesar,

It will inflame you, it will make you mad:

'Tis good you know not that you are his heirs;

For, if you should, O, what would come of it!

**Fourth Citizen**

Read the will; we'll hear it, Antony;

You shall read us the will, Caesar's will.

**ANTONY**

Will you be patient? will you stay awhile?

I have o'ershot myself to tell you of it:

I fear I wrong the honourable men

Whose daggers have stabb'd Caesar; I do fear it.

**Fourth Citizen**

They were traitors: honourable men!

**All**

The will! the testament!

**Second Citizen**

They were villains, murderers: the will! read the will.

**ANTONY**

You will compel me, then, to read the will?

Then make a ring about the corpse of Caesar,

And let me show you him that made the will.

Shall I descend? and will you give me leave?

**Several Citizens**

Come down.

**Second Citizen**

Descend.

**Third Citizen**

You shall have leave.

*ANTONY comes down*

**Fourth Citizen**

A ring; stand round.

**First Citizen**

Stand from the hearse, stand from the body.

**Second Citizen**

Room for Antony, most noble Antony.

**ANTONY**

Nay, press not so upon me; stand far off.

**Several Citizens**

Stand back; room; bear back.

**ANTONY**

Summarize the first 12 lines:

If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.

What is Antony’s tone as he describes Caesar’s wounds?

You all do know this mantle: I remember

The first time ever Caesar put it on;

'Twas on a summer's evening, in his tent,

That day he overcame the Nervii:

Look, in this place ran Cassius' dagger through:

See what a rent the envious Casca made:

Through this the well-beloved Brutus stabb'd;

And as he pluck'd his cursed steel away,

How does the imagery Antony uses here help him to achieve what is now obviously his purpose?

Mark how the blood of Caesar follow'd it,

As rushing out of doors, to be resolved

If Brutus so unkindly knock'd, or no;

For Brutus, as you know, was Caesar's angel:

Summarize the next 9 lines:

Judge, O you gods, how dearly Caesar loved him!

This was the most unkindest cut of all;

For when the noble Caesar saw him stab,

Ingratitude, more strong than traitors' arms,

Quite vanquish'd him: then burst his mighty heart;

And, in his mantle muffling up his face,

Even at the base of Pompey's statua,

Which all the while ran blood, great Caesar fell.

O, what a fall was there, my countrymen!

Summarize the last 8 lines:

Then I, and you, and all of us fell down,

Whilst bloody treason flourish'd over us.

O, now you weep; and, I perceive, you feel

The dint of pity: these are gracious drops.

Kind souls, what, weep you when you but behold

Our Caesar's vesture wounded? Look you here,

Here is himself, marr'd, as you see, with traitors.

**First Citizen**

O piteous spectacle!

How do the people feel about Caesar now?

**Second Citizen**

O noble Caesar!

**Third Citizen**

O woful day!

**Fourth Citizen**

O traitors, villains!

**First Citizen**

O most bloody sight!

**Second Citizen**

We will be revenged.

**All**

Revenge! About! Seek! Burn! Fire! Kill! Slay!

Let not a traitor live!

**ANTONY**

Stay, countrymen.

**First Citizen**

Peace there! hear the noble Antony.

**Second Citizen**

We'll hear him, we'll follow him, we'll die with him.

**ANTONY**

Good friends, sweet friends, let me not stir you up

To such a sudden flood of mutiny.

They that have done this deed are honourable:

What private griefs they have, alas, I know not,

That made them do it: they are wise and honourable,

And will, no doubt, with reasons answer you.

I come not, friends, to steal away your hearts:

I am no orator, as Brutus is;

But, as you know me all, a plain blunt man,

How are Antony’s words here ironic? (Highlight the most ironic statement.)

That love my friend; and that they know full well

That gave me public leave to speak of him:

For I have neither wit, nor words, nor worth,

Action, nor utterance, nor the power of speech,

To stir men's blood: I only speak right on;

I tell you that which you yourselves do know;

Show you sweet Caesar's wounds, poor poor dumb mouths,

And bid them speak for me: but were I Brutus,

And Brutus Antony, there were an Antony

Would ruffle up your spirits and put a tongue

In every wound of Caesar that should move

The stones of Rome to rise and mutiny.

**All**

We'll mutiny.

**First Citizen**

We'll burn the house of Brutus.

**Third Citizen**

Away, then! come, seek the conspirators.

**ANTONY**

Yet hear me, countrymen; yet hear me speak.

**All**

What is the purpose of Antony’s reminder here?

Peace, ho! Hear Antony. Most noble Antony!

**ANTONY**

Why, friends, you go to do you know not what:

Wherein hath Caesar thus deserved your loves?

Alas, you know not: I must tell you then:

You have forgot the will I told you of.

**All**

Most true. The will! Let's stay and hear the will.

**ANTONY**

Here is the will, and under Caesar's seal.

To every Roman citizen he gives,

What is the effect of the will on the crowd?

To every several man, seventy-five drachmas.

**Second Citizen**

Most noble Caesar! We'll revenge his death.

**Third Citizen**

O royal Caesar!

**ANTONY**

Hear me with patience.

**All**

Peace, ho!

**ANTONY**

Moreover, he hath left you all his walks,

His private arbours and new-planted orchards,

On this side Tiber; he hath left them you,

And to your heirs for ever, common pleasures,

To walk abroad, and recreate yourselves.

Here was a Caesar! when comes such another?

**First Citizen**

Never, never. Come, away, away!

We'll burn his body in the holy place,

And with the brands fire the traitors' houses.

Take up the body.

**Second Citizen**

Go fetch fire.

**Third Citizen**

How do Antony’s words here reveal clearly his purpose in this scene?

What is Antony’s tone?

Pluck down benches.

**Fourth Citizen**

Pluck down forms, windows, any thing.

*Exeunt Citizens with the body*

**ANTONY**

Now let it work. Mischief, thou art afoot,

Take thou what course thou wilt!

*Enter a Servant*

How now, fellow!

**Servant**

Sir, Octavius is already come to Rome.

**ANTONY**

Where is he?

**Servant**

He and Lepidus are at Caesar's house.

**ANTONY**

And thither will I straight to visit him:

He comes upon a wish. Fortune is merry,

And in this mood will give us any thing.

**Servant**

I heard him say, Brutus and Cassius

Are rid like madmen through the gates of Rome.

**ANTONY**

Belike they had some notice of the people,

How I had moved them. Bring me to Octavius.

*Exeunt.*