

PLAY SKILLS

How well did you understand the play? Put your knowledge to the test with these exercises.

NO-SWEAT TEST PREP

STRATEGY: Notice which *type of question* is asked (see parentheses)—so you'll be ready to tackle all of them on the big tests!

- The conspirators killed Julius Caesar for all of the following reasons EXCEPT . . . (*interpreting classic texts*)
 - They feared he would gain too much power.
 - They feared Rome would no longer be a republic.
 - They thought he wasn't smart enough to lead.
 - They were jealous and wanted power themselves.
- Which of the following events happened FIRST in the play? (*sequencing*)
 - Cassius tried to convince Brutus that Caesar should be killed.
 - Caesar victoriously returned from battle.
 - Marc Antony made a speech to the people of Rome.
 - Calpurnia told Caesar about her dream.
- Why did Marc Antony ask to speak at Caesar's funeral? (*understanding character's motivation*)
 - He wished to share his memories of Caesar.
 - He wanted to turn the public against the conspirators who killed Caesar.
 - He believed Brutus should be honored for killing Caesar.
 - Caesar had requested in his will that Marc Antony speak at his funeral.
- How were Brutus and Cassius different from each other? (*compare & contrast*)
 - Cassius believed in the republic and Brutus did not.
 - Brutus was more superstitious than Cassius.
 - Cassius was wealthy and Brutus was poor.
 - Brutus cared about Rome, while Cassius cared about his own power.
- What main event occurred as a result of Caesar's death and the speeches delivered at his funeral? (*understanding plot*)
 - There was a war over the control of Rome.
 - Antony crowned Brutus king.
 - Brutus convinced the public that Antony was too ambitious.
 - Cassius plotted against Brutus.
- Which of the following is one of the main ideas of the play? (*main idea*)
 - Belief in superstition is harmful.
 - Weak leaders should be killed.
 - Envy, betrayal, and the struggle for control of Rome caused many unnecessary deaths.
 - Rome was doomed from the start.

WORD WORKOUT

Which words best complete the sentences below? Be careful! You won't need all the words.

rival endure tyrant tormented suspicious
tyranny conspirators valiant ambitious
distraught traitor avenge

- Andrea was _____ that her birthday present might be hidden in the closet.
- The soccer players showed they could _____ a tough defeat. They didn't let it get them down and won the next three games.
- After Kim told the teacher Jamal was cheating, he called her a _____.
- Shila wants to run for President, and she's _____ enough to do it.
- The _____ firefighters rescued nine people from the burning building.

Interpreting classic texts & visual information

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

IN THE GRAPHIC CLASSIC PLAY YOU JUST READ, PICTURES TELL PART OF THE STORY. REVIEW THE PICTURES AND THEIR CAPTIONS IN THE PLAY. HERE ARE THREE MORE SCENES FROM JULIUS CAESAR. ADD ON TO EACH CAPTION HERE IN YOUR OWN WORDS.



1

"NO, CALPURNIA, YOU'VE GOT THE DREAM ALL WRONG."



2

"CAREFUL, CAESAR, MARCH 15TH ISN'T OVER YET!"



3

"HEY, BRUTUS, REMEMBER ME? BOOOOOO!"

Lined writing area for student responses, corresponding to the three numbered scenes.

TEACHERS: See the Graphic Organizer in the *Teacher's Edition* for a great storyboard activity.