***Study Guide Questions***

**Directions:** After reading each act out loud in class, the following questions will be discussed/answered in small groups in class. Each student must write the answers to the following questions in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. All answers should be numbered and headed with the proper act and scene numbers! Most responses will require several sentences in order to be answered completely.

**Act I, Scene 1**

1. What is the situation at the beginning of the play?

2. Identify Flavius and Marullus. What are they doing?

3. What is Lupercal?

**Act I, Scene 2**

4. What warning is given to Caesar? By whom? How does he react?

5. What are the two incidents Cassius tells to Brutus? What is his purpose in telling them?

6. What kind of person does Brutus seem to be? Cassius?

7. What is Caesar's opinion of Antony? of Cassius?

8. What is the report given by Casca?

9. How does Cassius feel about his talk with Brutus?

**Act I, Scene 3**

10. What is the effect of the storm? It's purpose?

11. How does Cassius say he can escape tyranny?

12. What is the next step in convincing Brutus?

**Act II, Scene 1**

1. Explain Brutus' speech that begins: “It must be by his death…”

2. Why do the conspirators want Cicero and then leave him out?

3. Why won't Brutus take an oath?

4. Why does he oppose the assassination of Antony?

5. How has Caesar changed?

6. What are some of Portia's characteristics?

**Act II, Scene 2**

7. Describe the night.

8. What has Caesar decided to do when Decius comes? What reason does he give?

9. Why does he change his mind?

10. What are the two interpretations of the dream?

**Act III, Scene 1**

1. What was each of the following characters to do at the capitol: Trebonious, Cimber, Casca, Brutus?

2. How do the conspirators react to the assassination?

3. How can you prove the dream was fulfilled?

4. What prophecy is made?

5. What message does Antony's servant bring?

6. What does Antony ask of the conspirators if they plan to kill him?

7. Of what do they assure him?

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8. Who doubts the wisdom of answering Antony's request?

9. Summarize Antony’s soliloquy.

**Act III, Scene 2**

10. How does Brutus justify Caesar's murder when he speaks to the people?

11. How is the point proven to the people?

12. How does Antony arouse the people to mutiny?

13. How does Antony show he understands the people better than Brutus?

14. What three examples does Antony give to prove that Caesar was not ambitious?

15. What are the provisions of Caesar's will?

16. Who is prepared to take control of the government of Rome now?

**Act IV, Scene 1**

1. What is the Second Triumvirate? Who composes it?

2. What is the new triumvirate planning to do?

**Act IV, Scene 2**

3. Where are Brutus and Cassius?

**Act IV, Scene 3**

4. Who quarrels? Why?

5. What does Brutus think of himself?

6. Why does Cassius say he is aweary of the world?

7. What alibi does Cassius use?

8. What news do we hear of Portia? What is Brutus' reaction?

9. Give the arguments pro and con for marching to Philippi. Why does Cassius think the army should be held at Sardis? Why does Brutus think they should march?

10. Why does Caesar's ghost appear to Brutus? What does it say to Brutus?

**Act V, Scene 1**

1. Where does the scene take place?

2. What do Brutus and Cassius do?

**Act V, Scene 3**

3. How does Cassius die?

4. How does Pindarus earn his freedom?

5. What happens to Titinius?

**Act V, Scene 4**

6. How does Brutus die?

7. What do Antony and Octavius say about Brutus?

8. Who wins and becomes ruler of Rome?

***Review of Chronology***

**Directions:** Number the following incidents in the order in which they occurred.

**Act I**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Caesar disregards the Soothsayer’s warning to beware the Ides of March.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Casca enters Cassius’ conspiracy on the night before the Ides of March.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Caesar returns to Rome after defeating Pompey.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cassius, now certain that Brutus can be won over, prepares to meet with the conspiracy.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The first domestic opposition to Caesar is evident in the speeches and action of the two

Tribunes, Flavius and Marullus.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The opposition to Caesar becomes more apparent as Cassius attempts to win Brutus’

allegiance.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus reveals his private fears that Caesar will accept the crown.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cinna is sent to place forged notes in praise of Brutus.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Casca brings his account of Caesar’s three refusals to accept the crown from Mark

Antony.

**Act II**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Calpurnia tells Caesar of the disturbing dreams she has had.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The conspirators meet at Brutus’ home and Brutus finally agrees to join their ranks.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Artemidorous writes Caesar a warning.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Portia, Brutus’s wife, demands to know what is going on. Brutus assures her he will

explain everything later.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus stands alone and tries to find a reason for Caesar’s death. He can find none.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Decius arrives and convinces Caesar that Calpurnia’s dream is a good omen.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Portia meets the soothsayer and is told that Caesar is in danger. She fears for Brutus’

safety and anxiously awaits his return.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus cautions against killing Antony. This is the first of many mistakes that will lead

to his downfall.

**Act III**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Caesar is killed by the conspirators.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Antony carries the dead body of Caesar to the forum.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus leaves the pulpit reminding the crowd that Antony speaks with the blessing of

the conspirators. He asks them to kindly give Antony their attention.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Initially confusing Cinna the poet with Cinna the conspirator, the crowd attacks the

poet for composing bad verses and carries him away.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Publius yells at Artemidorous as he tries to give Caesar a letter of warning.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Using every trick known to orators, Antony whips the crowd into a frenzy.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The crowd travels to the houses of the conspirators to burn them down.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus explains to Antony that the motives of the conspirators are difficult to

understand, but for the best.

**Act IV**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ In Rome, the second triumvirate of Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus prepares to crush all

opposition and to advance on the forces of Brutus and Cassius.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus, angered by Cassius’ failure to send him money for his troops, accuses his

partner of graft.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cassius, stunned by the accusation, is reconciled to Brutus only after a lengthy

argument.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cassius agrees with Brutus’ battle plan against his better judgment, and the conspirators

march to Philippi.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus informs Cassius that Portia, grieving over the strong opposition to her husband,

has killed herself.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The ghost of Caesar appears to Brutus and informs him that they shall meet at Philippi.

**Act V**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus and Cassius meet during the battle of Philippi and discuss its outcome. Suicide

comes to their mind even though Brutus is a stoic.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Noting a weakness in Octavius’ ranks, Brutus sends a message to Cassius that he

should have his men attack the forces of Antony.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ From a hilltop, Cassius and his slave Pindarus see a group of horsemen approaching.

Titinius is sent to discover whether they are friend or foe. He is surrounded and

apparently taken by the enemy.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cassius orders his slave, Pindarus, to kill him in exchange for his own freedom.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ When Titinius and Brutus’ men enter to give Cassius the victory wreath, they find him

dead, the victim of a mistaken conclusion. The grief stricken Titinius places the wreath

on the corpse and kills himself. Brutus enters, finds the two men dead, and mournfully

orders the battle continued.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brutus realizes that defeat is inevitable. He begs his associates to kill him, but they

refuse.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Strato, Brutus’ slave, holds the sword, and Brutus runs upon it. His last thought is that

Caesar is avenged.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Octavius and Antony arrive, and Antony praises Brutus as “the noblest Roman of them

all.”