JULIUS CAESAR

ACT III SCENE 2

Multiple Choice Questions

1) What does Brutus urge the Roman citizens to do in his speech?

(a) Leave the city
(b) Listen carefully to his explanation
(c) Seek revenge on Antony
(d) Support the conspirators

2) What reason does Brutus give for Caesar's assassination?

(a) Caesar was a tyrant
(b) Caesar was ambitious
(c) Caesar wanted to destroy Rome
(d) Caesar planned to kill the Senate

3) How do the citizens initially react to Brutus' speech?

(a) With outrage
(b) With understanding and support
(c) With confusion
(d) By leaving the scene

4) What does Brutus offer to do if the people disagree with his actions?

(a) Leave Rome forever
(b) Go into exile
(c) Kill himself with the same dagger
(d) Hand over power to Antony

5) How does Antony address the citizens when he begins his speech?

(a) Friends. Romans, countrymen'
(b) 'Citizens of Rome
(c) Dear comrades
(d) Loyal subjects

6) Ambition should be made of sterner stuff. What literary device is used in Antony's argument when he mentions Caesar's refusals of the crown?

(a) Irony (b) Hyperbole (c) Alliteration (d) Simile

7) Mark Antony stirs the emotions of the crowd in his

(a) farewell speech (b) eulogy (Funeral Speech) (c) prologue (d) epilogue

8) What is Antony's main purpose in his speech?

(a) To honour Brutus
(b) To calm the citizens
(c) To incite anger and turn them against the conspiracy
(d) To declare himself the new leader of Rome

9) How does Antony refer to Brutus and the conspirators in his speech?

(a) As noble men (c) As traitors (b) As honourable men (d) As saviours of Rome

10) What does Antony use to persuade the crowd of Caesar's kindness?

(a) Caesar's will (b) Caesar's speeches (c) Caesar's letters (d) Caesar's victories

11) What does Antony claim Caesar left to the people his will?

(a) His wealth (b) His gardens and orchards (c) A public park (d) His title

12) How does Antony subtly discredit Brutus' claim abo Caesar's ambition?

(a) By citing Caesar's refusals of the crown
(b) By showing Caesar's generosity
(c) By questioning Brutus' motives
(d) By praising Caesar's military campaigns

13) What effect does Antony's speech have on the crowd?

(a) They leave to mourn Caesar quietly (b) They grow angry and riot

(c) They continue to support Brutus (d) They call for Antony's death

14) What is Antony's final statement about Caesar wounds?

(a) They are a symbol of Rome's downfall (b) They are silent witnesses to his murder

(c) They beg for justice (d) They should be forgotten

15) What does the crowd decide to do after Antony's speech?

(a) Destroy the homes of the conspirators (b) Bury Caesar with honour

(c) Exile Antony from Rome (d) Demand a new leader

16) How does Antony show Caesar's body to the crowd?

(a) He uncovers it dramatically (b) He describes its wounds

(c) He lets the crowd view it closely (d) He refuses to show it

17) Why does Antony claim to weep for Caesar?

(a) He feels guilty for not protecting him (b) He has lost a friend

(c) He is manipulating the crowd (d) He fears for his own life

18) What is the crowd's reaction to Antony's reading of Caesar's will?

(a) They are indifferent (b) They are enraged and ready to revolt

(c) They feel grateful to Antony (d) They demand the conspirators immediate execution

19) What does Antony call the conspirators towards the end of his speech?

(a) Tyrants (b) Betrayers (c) Butchers (d) Liberators

20) What does Antony predict for Rome after Caesar's death?

(a) Peace and prosperity (b) Civil strife and chaos

(c) A new golden age (d) Military conquest

21) How does Antony's speech contrast with Brutus speech in this scene?

(a) Antony uses logic while Brutus appeals to emotions.

(b) Antony praises Brutus while Brutus criticizes Caesar.

(c) Antony appeals to the emotions of the crowd while Brutus uses logic.

(d) Antony uses brief statements while Brutus uses rhetorical questions.

22) What is the attitude of the mob in this scene?

(a) Clever (b) Sensitive (c) Intelligent (d) Irrational

23) Who has been referred to by Mark Antony as 'Caesar's angle?

(a) Calpurnia (b) Brutus (c) Octavius (d) None of these

24) How does Antony describe Caesar's wounds?

(a) Meek creatures (b) Unfortunate mouths

(c) Poor dumb mouths (d) Closed mouths

25) According to Antony, what would the people of Rome do after reading Caesar's will?

(a) They will kiss Caesar's wound reverently

(b) They will avenge his murder

(c) They will start destruction in Flame

(d) They will crown his best friend as king

26) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2).

Statement 1 - Antony calls the conspirators honourable men" in his speech.

Statement 2 - Antony genuinely believes that the conspirators acted with honour.

(a) Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false

(b) Statement 2 is true and Statement 1 is false

(c) Statement 2 is the cause for Statement 1

(d) Both statements are false.

27) Arrange the following statements in the correct order as per Act 3. Scene 2.

(i) Antony reads Caesar's will.

(ii) Brutus assures the crowd he acted for the good of Rome

(iii) The citizens initially agree with Brutus.

(iv) Antony's speech incites the citizens to revolt

(a) (ii), (iii), (i), (iv) (b) (i), (ii), (iv), (iii)

(c) (iii), (ii), (iv), (i) (d) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)

28) Select the option that shows the correct relationship between statements (1) and (2).

Statement 1 - They will kiss dead Caesar's wounds with reverence.

Statement 2 - The people of Rome have just heard Antony read out Caesar's will to them.

(a) Statement 1 is true, and Statement 2 is false

(b) Statement 2 is the cause of Statement 1.

(c) Statement 1 and Statement 2 are independent of each other

(d) Statement 2 is true, and Statement 1 is false.

Extract Based Questions

Extract 1

Romans, countrymen, and lovers, hear me for my cause, and be silent that you may hear. Believe me for mine honor, and have respect to mine honor that you may believe. Censure me in your wisdom, and awake your senses that you may the better judge. 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 die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live all freemen? As Caesar loved me, I weep for him. As he was fortunate, I rejoice at it. As he was valiant, I honor him. But, as he was ambitious. I slew him.

(i) What appeal does Brutus make to the crowd at the beginning of his speech? How does he ask them to judge him?

Ans. Brutus appeals to the crowd by asking them to hear him out for his cause and be silent so they can listen. He asks them to believe him for his honour and to respect his honour so that they may trust his words. He requests that they use their wisdom and senses to better judge his actions.

(ii) How does Brutus justify his participation in Caesar's assassination?

Ans. Brutus justifies his participation in Caesar's assassination by stating that his love for Caesar was equal to his love for Rome. He explains that he did not kill Caesar because he loved him less but because he loved Rome more. He suggests that allowing Caesar to live would have led to the people becoming slaves whereas Caesar's death ensures their freedom.

(iii) What contrasting emotions does Brutus express about Caesar? How do they reflect his internal conflict?

Ans. Brutus expresses contrasting emotions by saying he weeps for Caesar's love, rejoices at his fortune, honours his bravery but kills him for his ambition.

These contrasting emotions reflect Brutus internal conflict between his personal affection for Caesar and his perceived duty to Rome.

(iv) How does Brutus use rhetorical questions in his speech? What is their purpose?

Ans. Brutus uses rhetorical questions such as "Had you rather Caesar were living, and die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live all freemen?" to challenge the crowd and make them reflect on their choices.

The purpose of these questions is to justify Caesar's assassination by framing it as a choice between personal freedom and slavery under Caesar's rule.

(v) What does Brutus mean by the statement, "not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved Rome more"? How does this define his character?

Ans. By this statement, Brutus means that his decision to kill Caesar was not due to a lack of affection for him; rather, due to a greater loyalty to Rome.

This defines Brutus character as someone who prioritises the greater good and the welfare of the state over personal relationships and emotions

Extract 2

"Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; 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. He was my friend, faithful and just to me: But Brutus says he was ambitious; And Brutus is an honourable man."

(i) How does Antony's opening line, "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears", set the tone for his speech?

Ans. Antony's opening line is an appeal for attention and establishes a connection with the audience. By addressing them as "Friends, Romans, countrymen". He emphasises unity and respect setting a pacifying and engaging tone for his speech.

(ii) What rhetorical strategy does Antony use when he says, "I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him"? What effect does this have on the audience?

Ans. Antony uses irony and subtle contradiction in the given statement. While he claims not to praise Caesar, his speech gradually highlights Caesar's virtues.

This strategy engages the audience and makes them question the truth of Brutus accusations against Caesar.

(iii) Analyse Antony's repeated use of the phrase "Brutus is an honourable man". How does this repetition serve his overall argument?

Ans. The repetition of "Brutus is an honourable man" is a form of verbal irony. While Antony outwardly appears to agree with Brutus honour, the repeated phrase casts doubt on Brutus credibility

It subtly undermines Brutus' claims by juxtaposing them with evidence of Caesar's virtues

(iv) What is the significance of Antony's statement. "The evil that men do lives after them; The good is oft interred with their bones", in the context of Caesar's assassination?

Ans. This statement suggests that people's negative deeds are remembered more than their good actions after death. In the context of Caesar's assassination, Antony implies that Caesar's positive contributions are being overlooked and buried along with him while his alleged ambition (a supposed fault) is being used to justify his murder.

(v) How does Antony's reference to Caesar as faithful and just to me contrast with Brutus accusation of ambition? What impact does this have on the audience?

Ans. Antony's reference to Caesar as 'faithful and just to me contrasts sharply with Brutus' accusation of ambition by portraying Caesar as loyal and honourable. He emphasises Caesar's virtues and his commitment to Rome challenging Brutus justification for the assassination.

This creates doubt in the audience's mind about Brutus motives shifting their sympathy toward Caesar. The contrast heightens the emotional appeal, leading the crowd to question the righteousness of Caesar's death. Ultimately, this stirs their anger against the conspirators and inciting them to seek revenge

Extract 3

"But here's a parchment with the seal of Caesar, I found it in his closet, 'tis his 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."

(i) What do you think Antony's tone conveys in his statement about Caesar's will? How does it reflect his intentions toward the crowd?

Ans. Antony's tone is dramatic and filled with a sense of withheld emotion by mentioning the will but not reading it immediately, he creates a sense of suspense and mystery leading the crowd to anticipate something significant.

His tone is calculated and it reflects his intention to manipulate the crowd's emotions. He aims to make them eager to learn more; and, in doing so, he subtly guides their emotions toward anger and desire for revenge for Caesar's death.

(ii) Why does Antony mention that he does not intend to read Caesar's will aloud? How does this add to the suspense of the scene?

Ans. Antony's refusal to immediately read Caesar's will builds suspense by keeping the audience in anticipation of what the will contains. By hinting that the will holds something important. Antony fuels the crowd's curiosity making them more likely to side with him.

The withholding of the information increases the emotional stakes which in turn makes the crowd more eager to hear what he has to say.

(iii) What is the significance of the imagery of the commons kissing Caesar's wounds and dipping napkins in his blood? How does this imagery serve Antony's purpose in rallying the crowd?

Ans. The imagery of the commons kissing Caesar's wounds and dipping napkins in his blood serves to deify Caesar and turn him into a martyr.

By invoking this powerful imagery. Antony stirs up feelings of sympathy and reverence for Caesar. This emotional appeal not only paints Caesar as a victim but also arouses anger toward his assassins. It is meant to inspire them to avenge his death and take action against the conspirators.

(iv) How does the reference to Caesar's will act as a strategic move in Antony's speech? What effect do you think it will have on the public's emotions?

Ans. The reference to Caesar's will is a strategic move because it promises the crowd something of great value heightening their interest and emotional investment Antony suggests that Caesar's will contains a generous bequest which increases the public's desire to hear it.

This tactic effectively shifts the crowd's emotions from grief to hope and excitement, making them more susceptible to Antony's subsequent appeal for vengeance. It plays into the desire for justice and retribution, and the anticipation of the will's contents acts as a tool to inflame their feelings.

(v) In what ways does Antony manipulate the public's sentiment toward Caesar in this speech? Do you think he genuinely cares for Caesar or is he using his death for personal gain?

Ans. Antony manipulates the public's sentiment by emphasising Caesar's good qualities, his martyrdom and the injustice of his death. He skilfully stirs emotions casting the conspirators as villains and Caesar as a victim.

Antony's feelings toward Caesar appear genuine as he expresses deep grief and loyalty. However, his actions also suggest he is using Caesar's death for persona gain. Antony skilfully manipulates the crowd's emotions to turn them against the conspirators and shift power in his favour.

While his sorrow seems real, his ultimate goal is to strengthen his own political power making his mourning a strategic tool in his pursuit of authority Thus, his care for Caesar is intertwined with his ambition.

Extract 4

Antony 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.

(i) Who were the 'Nervii'? Why does Antony mention the names of Cassius, Casca and Brutus as he shows the mob the mantle?

Ans. The 'Nervii' were a Gallic tribe. Caesar had won against them.

Antony mentioned the names of Cassius, Casca and Brutus as he showed the mob the mantle to stir the emotions of the crowd. Through it, Antony indirectly reminds the crowd that it was Brutus (a well-loved figure) who stabbed Caesar.

This highlights the personal and emotional impact of the assassination and manipulates the crowd's feelings of anger and betrayal.

(ii) State three arguments put forward by Antony earlier to prove that Caesar was not ambitious. (3)

Ans. Three arguments put forward by Antony earlier to prove that Caesar wasn't ambitious are

(a) Caesar's Refusal of the Crown Antony points out that when Caesar was offered the crown three times, he rejected it each time, suggesting that Caesar was not ambitious.

(b) Caesar's Generosity to the People Antony mentions that Caesar wept for the poor, showing his compassion. He also mentions that Caesar left money to the people in his will, further disproving any claim of ambition.

(c) Caesar's Refusal to Accept Praise Antony reminds the crowd that Caesar, after his military victories, did not act arrogantly or demand excessive recognition. Instead, he showed humility and a sense of duty to Rome.

(iii) Why does Antony refer to Brutus as well-beloved? Why was the stabbing of Caesar by Brutus referred to as the 'most unkindest cut of all'?

Ans. Antony refers to Brutus as 'well-beloved' because Brutus was viewed as an honourable and respected figure in Rome. He was also Caesar's friend and trusted confidant which made his betrayal even more painful and shocking.

The stabbing of Caesar by Brutus is referred to as the 'most unkindest cut' because it was the ultimate betrayal. Caesar trusted Brutus making the act of stabbing him feel the most painful of all the blows. It emphasises the personal nature of Brutus' betrayal.

(iv) Mention three ways Brutus speech differs from Antony's.

Ans. Brutus' speech is logical, calm and appeals to reason, presenting the assassination as a noble act done for the greater good of Rome. Antony's speech, on the other hand, is emotional, impassioned and aimed at stirring up the crowd's emotions.

Brutus relies on his own reputation and honour, showing himself as a trusted and respected figure to justify his actions. On the other hand, Antony uses emotions to stir the crowd, making them feel anger and sadness to turn them against the conspirators.

Brutus' speech is aimed at justifying the assassination of Caesar and persuading the crowd that it was for Rome's benefit. Antony, however, seeks to turn the crowd against the conspirators stirring them to seek revenge for Caesar's death.

(v) What characteristic of the mob is highlighted in this scene? State any two characteristic traits of mark Antony revealed in this scene. Justify your answer by giving a suitable reason.

Ans. The mob's fickleness and susceptibility to emotional manipulation are highlighted in this scene. They quickly turn from supporting Brutus and the conspirators to calling for vengeance after Antony's emotional appeal and the revelation of Caesar's will.

Two Characteristic Traits of Mark Antony revealed in Act 3 Scene 2 are:

(a) Cunning and strategic (b) Emotional and persuasive

His use of Caesar's will and the imagery of Caesar's blood being kissed manipulates the mob's emotions to suit his political agenda. He portrays Brutus' betrayal as the 'most unkindest cut'. This highlights Antony's ability to manipulate public sentiment and sway the crowd's opinion.

Extract 5

I am no orator, as Brutus is, But, as you know me all, a plain blunt man
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) What does Antony mean by saying he is 'no orator, as Brutus is'? How does this reflect his humility or strategy in the speech?

Ans. Antony is acknowledging that he is not as skilled in speechmaking as Brutus. However, this statement is strategic because it makes Antony appear humble and self-criticising.

By downplaying his abilities, he gains the crowd's sympathy and prepares them to be more receptive to his speech which is, in fact, deeply emotional and persuasive.

(ii) Why does Antony describe himself as a 'plain blunt man'? How does this affect the audience's perception of him?

Ans. Antony describes himself as a 'plain blunt man' to convey sincerity and honesty presenting himself as someone who is straightforward.

This contrast to Brutus' more formal, reasoned approach helps the crowd see him as more relatable and trustworthy. It builds a connection with the audience making them more likely to listen to his emotional appeal.

(iii) What does Antony's statement "I love my friend, and that they know full well" reveal about his relationship with Caesar?

Ans. Antony's statement emphasises his deep affection and loyalty toward Caesar making it clear that his grief is personal. By reminding the crowd that they know how much he loved Caesar, Antony strengthens the emotional impact of his speech. It also establishes that his mourning is genuine making his forthcoming emotional appeal more powerful.

(iv) Why does Antony say he 'has neither wit, nor words, nor worth'? How does this affect the credibility of his speech?

Ans. Antony's claim of lacking wit, words and worth is a strategy meant to disarm the audience. By claiming to be without the qualities of an effective speaker, he sets up the expectation that his words will not be sophisticated or manipulative. This irony enhances his credibility-when he does deliver a compelling and emotional speech, the crowd is more likely to trust him because he didn't appear to be trying to manipulate them.

(v) How does Antony's self-deprecation about his lack of 'action, utterance, or power of speech' contribute to the effectiveness of his speech?

Ans. Antony's self-deprecation is a deliberate tactic to lower expectations and make his speech appear more genuine. By stating that he lacks the ability to 'stir men's blood' with his words, Antony sets up the contrast for when he actually does stir the crowd's emotions. His humility allows the crowd to focus on the sincerity of his message; and, when he appeals to their emotions, it becomes more impactful because he didn't try to manipulate them with elaborate speechcraft.

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