JULIUS CAESAR

ACT III SCENE 3

Multiple Choice Questions

1) What does the mob initially demand from Cinna the poet?

(a) To recite a poem
(b) To identify himself
(c) To lead them to the conspirators
(d) To confess to Caesar's murder

2) What is the primary reason the mob is so furious in Act 3. Scene 3?

(a) They are grieving Caesar's death
(b) They are manipulated by Antony's speech
(c) They have been ordered to riot by Brutus
(d) They are seeking revenge for Caesar's murder

3) What is the significance of the mob attacking Cinna the poet?

(a) It reflects the growing chaos in Rome after Caesar's death
(b) It shows the mob's loyalty to Caesar
(c) It highlights the importance of poets in Roman politics
(d) It foreshadows Brutus' downfall

4) How does the mob react to Cinna the poet's plea for his life?

(a) They listen to him and spare him
(b) They laugh at him and kill him anyway
(c) They arrest him for questioning
(d) They offer him a chance to explain himself

5) What does the mob's treatment of Cinna the poet demonstrate about the political climate in Rome?

(a) The political situation is stable and controlled
(b) The citizens of Rome are acting with reason and justice
(c) The mob is easily swayed and chaotic in their decisions
(d) The plebeians are highly loyal to the conspirators

6) How does the mob's behaviour in Act 3, Scene 3 contrast with the earlier scenes in the play?

(a) The mob was previously peaceful but now they are violent and irrational
(b) The mob has always been hostile to Caesar's supporters
(c) The mob remains calm and reflective in this scene
(d) The mob is more focused on the death of the conspirators

7) What purpose does this scene serve?

(a) It highlights the effect of Antony's speech
(b) It signifies the love of the comman man for Caesar
(c) It highlights Antony's speech
(d) All of the above

8) According to a citizen, Cinna's reply that he was a bachelor, tantamount to saying

(a) only bachelors are trustworthy
(b) those who marry are fools
(c) those who are bachelors are fools
(d) None of the above

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

Statement 1 : Cinna the poet's death is symbolic of the chaos in Rome after Caesar's assassination.

Statement 2 : His death is caused by a mistaken identity, showing the irrational and violent behaviour of the mob.

(a) Statement 1 is true and Staternent 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

Extract Based Questions

Extract 1

Third Plebeian : Your name, sir, truly. Cinna Truly, my name is Cinna
First Plebeian : Tear him to pieces! He's a conspirator.
Fourth Plebeian : Tear him for his bad verses, tear him for his bad verses!
Fourth Plebeian : it is no matter. His name's Cinna
Pluck but his name out of his heart, and turn him going.
Third Plebeian : Tear him, tear him! Come, brands. bo, firebrands! To Brutus', to Cassius', burn all! Some to Decius' house, and some to Casca's, some to Ligarius. Away, go!

(i) Why does the First Plebeian immediately accuse Cinna of being a conspirator? What does this reveal about the mob's state of mind?

Ans. The First Plebeian accuses Cinna of being a conspirator simply because his name is 'Cinna' which is the same as one of the conspirators.

This shows how easily the mob can be manipulated and how quickly they jump to conclusions without considering the truth. The mob's state of mind is one of chaos and anger, fuelled by emotional reactions rather than rational thought.

(ii) How does Cinna's attempt to clarify his identity as a poet contribute to the tragicomic nature of the scene?

Ans. Cinna's attempt to distinguish himself as 'Cinna the poet highlights the absurdity of the mob's actions The fact that the crowd, in its blind rage, refuses to listen to his defence and instead decides to tear him apart for 'bad verses adds an element of dark humour to the tragedy.

This moment reflects the danger of mob mentality and the ease with which innocent people can be swept up in violent actions.

(iii) What does the Fourth Plebeian's insistence on tearing Cinna apart for his 'bad verses' reveal about the mob's irrational behaviour?

Ans. The Fourth Plebeian's focus on bad verses' instead of the actual reason for the mob's anger (the conspiracy) emphasises how irrational and unreasonable the crowd is.

They are so consumed by rage that they no longer care about facts or justice Instead, they lash out Indiscriminately, targeting anyone with the name "Cinna', even if the person is innocent and unrelated to the conspiracy

(iv) How does the scene reflect the consequences of Antony's speech to the plebeians?

Ans. This scene directly reflects the consequences of Antony's speech where he stoked the crowd's emotions and turned them against the conspirators. The mob's violent reaction to the name 'Cinna' shows how easily they can be manipulated and how quickly their anger has been directed toward anyone associated with Caesar's assassination The scene exemplifies the chaos and bloodlust Antony's speech has incited.

(v) What is the significance of the plebeians' decision to attack Cinna, even after he claims to be a poet and not a conspirator?

Ans. The plebeians' decision to attack Cinna despite his explanation reflects the crowd's complete loss of reason and their overwhelming desire for vengeance. It symbolises the dangers of mob mentality where personal identity and truth are disregarded in favour of collective anger.

This scene demonstrates how the mob, once stirred, can become irrational and destructive. As a result, they make decisions based on impulse and confusion rather than understanding.

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