

Julius Caesar Previous Year Questions (with model answers)

Q1. 'Et tu, Brute!' These were the last words of Julius Caesar. Elucidate with reference to the drama 'Julius Caesar'. Why did Caesar say these words before his death? [CBSE 2024]

Ans. Brutus was a good friend of Caesar and the stab by Brutus was the deadliest for him. He was in shock to see that Brutus was one of the conspirators. Thus, he exclaimed with shock that even Brute (Brutus) had conspired to kill him.

Q2. How, according to Shakespeare, will poetry prove to be more powerful than statues? [CBSE 2020]

Ans. According to Shakespeare, the poetry will prove to be more powerful than statues as these statues and monuments created by the rulers can be destroyed by time because of earthquakes, weathering due to Sun and rain while his creation that is poetry cannot be destroyed and will continue to live on in the reader's memory.

Q3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: [CBSE 2019]

If thou dost bend and pray and fawn for him,
I spurn thee like a cur out of my way.

(i) Identify the speaker of the above extract.

Ans. Caesar is the speaker in the extract above.

(ii) Who was bending, praying and fawning?

Ans. It was Metellus Cimber who was bending, praying and fawning.

(iii) In what context have the above words been spoken?

Ans. In the above extract, Publius Cimber, Metellus Cimber's brother, had been imprisoned, and he begs Caesar to forgive his brother and lift his banishment.

(iv) What do these words reveal about the character of the speaker?

Ans. These words indicate that the speaker is a strong-willed individual who does not tolerate traitors.

Q4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : [CBSE 2018]

But speak all good you can devise of Caesar,
And say you do it by our permission;

.....

(a) Identify the speaker.

Ans. Brutus is the speaker.

(b) Who is being granted permission?

Ans. Antony is being granted permission.

(c) What is the speaker afraid of?

Ans. The speaker was afraid that people will choose Caesar as their king.

(d) What opinion do you form of the speaker?

Ans. The speaker seemed to be cunning and generous but he had immense intelligence and energy too.

Q5. Loyalty is inherent in friendship. A friend is expected to avenge the hurt caused to his friend. Describe how Antony proves his loyalty to Julius Caesar by bringing the conspirators to justice. [CBSE 2017]

Ans. Caesar was a victim of a conspiracy. Mark Antony, a very close friend and confidant of Caesar, a true patriot in his own right, was shocked and mourned when he got to know about the horrific crime. He demonstrates to the Romans that the accusations made against Caesar by the conspirators were false by making an incredibly moving funeral address.

He outraged and incited his fellow Romans to rise up in rebellion against the conspirators. After that, there was civil strife and violence, and the conspirators were killed. When confronted with harsh disappointment, Brutus and Cassius took their own lives. As a result, Antony exacted revenge on Caesar. He demonstrated that friendships are based on loyalty and that it was his moral duty as a friend to bring the conspirators to justice.

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