

Name:

### **Make-Up for Readers' Theater**

This assignment is in place of your readers' theater grade.

Your assigned Act/Scene:

Directions:

- Shorten assigned scene to the most important 13 lines.
- Write a 1-1 ½ page (500 word) paper that does the following:
  - Introduces and briefly summarizes your scene.
  - Identifies key characters
  - Explains each line and its importance to the scene. (In other words, why did you choose to keep this line out of all of them?)
- “Share” the paper with me and e-mail me to let me know it’s done. You have 1 week from your absence to make up the assignment.

### **MODEL MAKE UP ASSIGNMENT**

#### **Important Lines**

##### **OCTAVIUS**

And some that smile have in their hearts, I fear,  
Millions of mischiefs.

##### **BRUTUS**

Judge me, you gods! wrong I mine enemies?  
And, if not so, how should I wrong a brother?

##### **CASSIUS**

You have condemn'd and noted Lucius Pella  
For taking bribes here of the Sardians;

##### **BRUTUS**

You wronged yourself to write in such a case.

##### **BRUTUS**

And chastisement doth therefore hide his head.

##### **BRUTUS**

All this! ay, more: fret till your proud heart break;

**BRUTUS**

You say you are a better soldier:

**CASSIUS**

My spirit from mine eyes! There is my dagger, And here my naked breast; If that thou be'st a Roman, take it forth;

**CASSIUS**

I did not think you could have been so angry.

**BRUTUS**

Have made themselves so strong:--for with her death

**BRUTUS**

That young Octavius and Mark Antony  
Come down upon us with a mighty power

**MESSALA**

Octavius, Antony, and Lepidus, have put to death an hundred senators.

**CASSIUS**

'Tis better that the enemy seek us:

**BRUTUS**

Good reasons must, of force, give place to better.

Essay

Julius Caesar Act 4 is a key piece of the play. This scene, which involves plotting, fighting, and forgiveness, is a pivotal point in Julius Caesar. This is because it is the beginning of the end for the conspirators. The longest scene in Act 4 is scene 3, which depicts Brutus and Cassius arguing and then forgiving each other in Brutus's tent. They are arguing about Brutus being hypocritical about accepting bribes from the people, then discouraging this same act publicly. They also argued about whether killing Julius Caesar was really necessary. Earlier in the Act, the conspirators Octavius, Lepidus, and Antony are plotting to kill the next few people, including Lepidus's brother. In the end of the Act, Cassius and Brutus bid each other farewell before going into battle. They say goodbye because it is unlikely that they will ever see each

other alive again. This act is mainly about the morality of killing Caesar, and if it was necessary or not.

The key characters in Julius Caesar Act 4, include the ghost of Caesar himself, Brutus, Cassius, Octavius, along with others. The Ghost of Caesar warned Brutus and Cassius of his vengeance and their fate. Brutus, who is regretting his actions in killing Caesar is arguing with Cassius. Cassius, the other main conspirator (along with Brutus), in this act he feels unremorseful for helping Caesar. In the first scene of Act 4, the three conspirators Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus, are plotting who to kill next. This goes against the 'boss's' idea of just killing Caesar in the name of freedom. Each character plays an important role in the Act. But this would make for some disagreements throughout the Act, as well as the rest of the play.

There were several important lines in this Act, making it difficult to narrow it down to 13. Firstly, Octavius says "And some that smile have in their hearts, I fear, millions of mischiefs." This line means that some people show support on the outside, but on the inside they're traitors and hypocrites. Next, Brutus says "Judge me, you gods! wrong I mine enemies? And, if not so, how should I wrong a brother?" He means that he either has to stay faithful to his friends and harm his enemies, or he has to wrong his friends by not harming his enemies. He wants the gods to help him decide what to do. Then, Brutus is called out for hypocritically taking bribes while publicly discouraging them. This happens in the line "You have condemn'd and noted Lucius Pella for taking bribes here of the Sardians;..." Then, Brutus hits back with "You wronged yourself to write in such a case." By this he means that Cassius shouldn't have written anything, that would have been for his own good. "And chastisement doth therefore hide his head." Brutus

says this to imply that punishment has hidden with the downfall of Caesar. With Cassius being extremely self confident during the argument they are having, Brutus tries to calm him down by saying “All this! ay, more: fret till your proud heart break.” Brutus calls Cassius out in this line, making Cassius even more angry. Once again in the line “You say you are a better soldier” Brutus challenges and calls out Cassius. He does this by repeating what Cassius says in a challenging and mocking tone. Next, Cassius says “My spirit from mine eyes! There is my dagger, And here my naked breast; If that thou be'st a Roman, take it forth.” Cassius tries to end the argument by saying this, and is fairly successful. He challenges Brutus’ will, by asking him to kill him. Then, once the argument cools down, Cassius states “I did not think you could have been so angry.” This is the point they realize how stupid the argument they were having was. At this point they forgive each other and begin to move forward. After the argument cools down, they are informed that Portia is dead. The quote “Have made themselves so strong:--for with her death” describes how the conspirators will become stronger with the loss of one of their acquaintances. Then, Brutus says “That young Octavius and Mark Antony come down upon us with a mighty power.” This quote describes how Octavius and Mark Antony are killing people like in the beginning of the Act, and gaining power. The quote “Octavius, Antony, and Lepidus, have put to death an hundred senators.” Messala continues to describe this. Then, Cassius says “‘Tis better that the enemy seek us...” this is reassuring Brutus, who is paranoid of capture, that everything will be O.K. The final important line of the Act is “Good reasons must, of force, give place to better.” This line really summarizes the whole sentiment of the play, that bad will be eliminated through exception of force and good will replace the bad.