

Julius Caesar: Final Discussion Task

Directions: Review the handout, "Forming a good research question" along with the information below. Find the grid with your name on it and type your original critical thinking questions in your assigned space. Do not tamper with anyone's space. When we have our final discussion, you will be able to see the questions as they are posed by each speaker.

Write **one** critical thinking question **for each act** in *Julius Caesar*. Your blend of questions should engage the following skills:

1. Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story (e.g. where the story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed). [Effects/ impact]
2. Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of the text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot (structure) or develop the theme. [change over time/ continuity over time; interactions]
3. Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g. parallel plots) and manipulate time (e.g. pacing and flashbacks) create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise [causes; contextualization; compare and contrast]
4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g. how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone) [causes; illustrations of a larger trend]
5. Analyze a case in which grasping point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g. irony or overstatement) [interactions]

The questions you write should also provide classmates with adequate context. Concise language, too, is imperative to the clarity of your questions.

Finally, your classmates should be able to respond to the questions using their notes, journals, and textbook, and inference skills. Students should not be able to find THE answer in the text.

Example:

Caesar ignores several warnings in the days that led up to his assassination. Brutus, too, fails to heed Cassius' warnings. How does this parallel along with the order of dismissive behavior function? What are the implications of the function?

Student Questions

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Act III:	
Act IV:	
Act V:	

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