

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar: Act V Journal

Directions: *Answer the prompts below after you review the stages of Act V and the prescribed paragraph pattern. Make sure your answers are concise, supported, and well structured. Paraphrase your support.*

Act V stages:

Moment of final suspense-

for a moment, the audience thinks our tragic hero will win

Catastrophe-

the tragic hero's downfall, which is usually death

Glimpse at restored order-

the tragedy ends on a high note, giving the audience a glimpse of the healing to come. A character, moved by the catastrophe, sets the record straight.

Paragraph pattern = state your claim → introduce your support → paraphrase and cite your support → explore and explain the nuances and/or complexities of your support → connect your claim with your evidence (warrant) → resolve your claim by leaving the reader something to think about (clincher). Use internal transition to smooth your claim.

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1. What role does irony play in the moment of final suspense? (Unpack the task: 1. explain the audience's reasonable expectation and how actions, statements, or conditions contradict those expectations. 2. Explain how the contradiction advances or otherwise plays a role in the moment of final suspense)

2. What role does irony play in the catastrophe? (Unpack the task: You have to think about Brutus' statements and attitudes throughout the fourth act. To answer the question, you have to consider how Brutus' behavior and comments in Act V contradict the expectations established in Act IV. Then you have to explain the impact irony has on shaping the play's catastrophe.)

3. Based on the glimpse at restored order, what qualities does Octavius possess and how do his qualities contribute to the purpose of the tragedy's final stage?

