

ENGLISH 2 : MODULE 04 : BETRAYAL: 04.04 JULIUS CAESAR, ACT III

What should Brutus do?

- Kill Caesar. Save Rome from being controlled by a king.
- Tell Caesar what Cassius is planning. Save his friend, the future king of Rome.
- Stay out of it. Let Caesar save himself if he can, or let Cassius kill Caesar alone.

Vote

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of Shakespearean language
- identify main themes in Act III
- demonstrate understanding of persuasive elements

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Betrayal and Persuasion

The power of persuasion is an important skill to develop. It can help to reach people, convince crowds, and achieve certain outcomes that you desire.

The art of persuasion normally requires three main elements to be as effective as possible:

- **An appeal to reason**—An appeal to reason may include statistics or other facts that will bring audiences to a logical conclusion. Phrases such as "Ten percent of people experience ..." or "One out of 10 people answered that ..." may be used. The appeal to reason is the basis for argumentation.
- **An appeal to emotions**—An appeal to emotions may include descriptions of events or places that have emotional meanings to the audience. Words with strong emotional connections may also be used, such as "friends," "heart," and "cry."
- **An appeal to ethics**—An appeal to ethics may include positive references to the audience's sense of right versus wrong to gain their trust and support. Descriptions of specific values and community beliefs may be used.

Once the main betrayal has been committed in *Julius Caesar*, revenge and power become central in many characters' minds. Because of this, they must find others who will join them. Their skills of persuasion will be crucial to their success.

There are many characters in *Julius Caesar*. Try to keep track of each one and his or her contribution to the story. Use the following [Graphic Organizer](#). The first two slots have been filled out for you, and the characters of Act III have been listed. You may also use the notes from your graphic organizers to assist you in your Discussion-Based Assessment.

Read the third act of [Julius Caesar](#) at Sparknotes.com on your own. As you read, remember to fill in your graphic organizer and think about the betrayals that takes place.

Julius Caesar Act III Graphic Organizer

Name	Character Notes	Important Quotes	Evidence of Loyalty (to whom?)
Caesar	Decides to read a letter that concerns him after doing his other work, therefore ignoring a letter that warns him about the assassination plot. Dies after being stabbed several times by the conspirators, including Brutus.		
Soothsayer	Points out that the Ides of March are not yet over.		
Artemidorus			
Decius Brutus			
Publius			
Cassius			
Popilius			
Brutus			
Cinna			
Metellus Cimber			
Casca			
Trebonyius			
Servant			
Antony			
Citizens			

Cinna the poet			
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Examples of ethics in Brutus' speech:

Examples of emotion in Brutus' speech:

Examples of reason in Brutus' speech:

Examples of ethics in Antony's speech:

Examples of emotion in Antony's speech:

Examples of reason in Antony's speech:

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Act III, scene i: Rome. Before the Capitol; the Senate sitting above.

"Et tu, Brute! Then fall, Caesar."

— Caesar

Persuasion is the most important part of this act. The art of persuasion lies in a person's choice of words. At the beginning of the first scene, several of the conspirators are unable to persuade Caesar to pardon Publius Cimber, who has been banished. When the conspirators fail, they murder Caesar immediately. This is the audience's first clue that Brutus and his comrades do not possess a strong ability to persuade. Read about [Caesar's death](#).

When Mark Antony arrives and works to regain the trust of the men who have just assassinated his close friend, we learn that Antony may be a stronger speaker than the conspirators.

What does Antony ask permission to do? What is he really planning? Write your thoughts in your graphic organizer. Read about [after Caesar's death](#).

When Antony is alone, he gives a [soliloquy](#) that explains his true feelings.

Brutus has betrayed his friend and joined with the conspirators. He believes he can convince the people of Rome that he has done the "right" thing. Will he succeed, or will Mark Antony ruin his plans?

Antony—Text Version

O, pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth,
 That I am meek and gentle with these butchers!
 Thou art the ruins of the noblest man
 That ever livèd in the tide of times.
 Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood!
 Over thy wounds now do I prophesy—
 Which, like dumb mouths, do [ope](#) their ruby lips
 To beg the voice and utterance of my tongue—
 A curse shall light upon the limbs of men.
 Domestic fury and fierce civil strife
 Shall cumber all the parts of Italy.
 Blood and destruction shall be so in use,
 And dreadful objects so familiar,
 That mothers shall but smile when they behold
 Their infants [quartered](#) with the hands of war,
 All pity choked with custom of fell deeds,
 And Caesar's spirit, ranging for revenge,
 With Ate by his side come hot from hell,
 Shall in these confines with a monarch's voice
 Cry "Havoc!" and let slip the dogs of war,
 That this foul deed shall smell above the earth
 With [carrion](#) men, groaning for burial.

In this scene, Antony expresses his feelings in several ways. Select the line where he admits to Caesar's body that he is not being honest with Brutus and Cassius.

- That I am meek and gentle with these butchers!
- That ever lived in the tide of times.
- And dreadful objects so familiar
- Their infants quartered with the hands of war;

Check Answers

Answers

In this scene, Antony expresses his feelings in several ways. Select the line where he admits to Caesar's body that he is not being honest with Brutus and Cassius.

- **That I am meek and gentle with these butchers!**
- That ever lived in the tide of times.
- And dreadful objects so familiar
- Their infants quartered with the hands of war;

In this line, Antony describes his behavior as “meek” and “gentle,” suggesting that he is deliberately obeying what the conspirators say to gain their trust. He also describes the conspirators as “butchers,” which shows that he does not love them or think of them as good friends, as he told them he did. Antony is misleading the conspirators to get revenge for Caesar's murder.

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Act III, scene ii: The Forum.

"If you have tears, prepare to shed them now."

— Antony

Scene ii focuses on the speeches that Brutus and Antony give to the citizens of Rome. These speeches are both effective in their own ways, but one is much more persuasive than the other.

Read both speeches. Whose is more persuasive, in your opinion? Make your decision based on the information you know about persuasive appeals. Read [Brutus's speech](#). Read [Antony's speech](#).

After Brutus speaks, the crowd cheers and generally agrees that Caesar deserved to die because of his ambition.

- **Emotions**—An appeal to emotions may include descriptions of events or places that have emotional meanings to the audience. Words with strong emotional connections may also be used, such as "friends," "heart," and "cry."
- **Reason**—An appeal to reason may include statistics or other facts that will bring audiences to a logical conclusion.
- **Ethics**—An appeal to ethics may include positive references to the audience's sense of right versus wrong to gain their trust and support.

Does Brutus use all three persuasive appeals in his speech? Roll over the lines to see how he tries to win the public support. Review [Brutus's speech](#).

However, after Antony speaks, the crowd has completely changed its mind. They now support Antony and feel Caesar was wrongly killed.

- **Emotions**—An appeal to emotions may include descriptions of events or places that have emotional meanings to the audience. Words with strong emotional connections may also be used, such as "friends," "heart," and "cry."
- **Reason**—An appeal to reason may include statistics or other facts that will bring audiences to a logical conclusion.
- **Ethics**—An appeal to ethics may include positive references to the audience's sense of right versus wrong to gain their trust and support.

Does Antony use all three persuasive appeals in his speech? Roll over the lines to see how he wins the public support. Review [Antony's speech](#).

Brutus's Speech

Brutus

Romans, countrymen, and lovers! hear me for my cause, and be silent, that you may hear: believe me for mine honour, and have respect to mine honour, that you may believe: censure me in your wisdom, and awake your senses, that you may the better judge. If there be any in this assembly, any dear friend of Caesar's, to him I say, that Brutus' love to Caesar was no less than his. If then that friend demand why Brutus rose against Caesar, this is my answer: – Not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved Rome more. Had you rather Caesar were living and die all slaves, than that Caesar were dead, to live all free men? As Caesar loved me, I weep for him; as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it; as he was valiant, I honour him: but, as he was ambitious, I slew him. There is tears for his love; joy for his ambition. Who is here so **base** that would be a **bondman**? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so rude that would not be a Roman? If any, speak; for him have I offended. Who is here so vile that will not love his country? If any, speak; for him have I offended. I pause for a reply.

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Antony's Speech

Antony

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones;
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.
Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest—
For Brutus is an honourable man;
So are they all, all honourable men—
Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.
He was my friend, faithful and just to me:
But Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honourable man.
He hath brought many captives home to Rome
Whose ransoms did the general **coffers** fill:
Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?
When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept:
Ambition should not be made of sterner stuff:
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honourable man.
You all did see that on the Lupercal
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And, sure, he is an honourable man.
I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
But here I am to speak what I do know.
You all did love him once, not without cause:
What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him?
O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason. Bear with me;
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
And I must pause till it come back to me.

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Both Brutus and Antony begin their speeches similarly. Take a look:

Brutus

Romans, countrymen, and lovers! hear me for my cause, and be silent, that you may hear: believe me for mine honour, and have respect to mine honour, that you may believe:

Antony

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones;
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.
Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest—
For Brutus is an honourable man;
So are they all, all honourable men

Though these two speeches have similar openings, one is more effective than the other. Who does a better job of persuading the crowd?

Look at the rest of these two speeches. Link to [Antony's](#) and [Brutus's](#) speeches here. Notice that Antony uses the word "honorable" several times. At first he seems to be agreeing that Brutus is an honorable person. By the end, though, it turns out Antony is simply referring to the honor Brutus said he had. Antony does not feel Brutus is an honorable man.

Review the speeches. Which speaker provided a better persuasive argument to the Roman crowd? What elements made it more persuasive than the other? Put your notes in your graphic organizer.

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Who does a better job of persuading the crowd? — Text Version

Brutus focuses the opening of his speech on:

- Himself
- The crowd

Check answers

Brutus focuses the opening of his speech on:

- **Himself** — Brutus focuses on himself at the start of this speech. He refers to his honor and the respect the crowd should have for him.
 - The crowd
-

Antony focuses the opening of his speech on:

- Himself
- Brutus

Check answers

Antony focuses the opening of his speech on:

- Himself
 - **Brutus** — Antony focuses on Brutus (as well as Caesar) in his speech. This is important because he is planning to turn the crowd against Brutus by the end.
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Why does Antony read Caesar's will to the crowd? — Text Version

Why does Antony read Caesar's will to the crowd?

- He knows it will make the crowd love Caesar.
- He believes it is an important part of a funeral.

Check answers

Why does Antony read Caesar's will to the crowd?

- **He knows it will make the crowd love Caesar.** — Because Caesar's will contains promises to support the public, Antony knows this will make the crowd angry that Caesar was murdered.
- He believes it is an important part of a funeral.

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Antony's Speech—Text Version

Antony

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
 I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
 The evil that men do lives after them;
 The good is oft interred with their bones;
 So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
 Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
 If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
 And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.
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 For Brutus is an honourable man;
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 You all did see that on the Lupercal
 I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
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 I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
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 You all did love him once, not without cause:
 What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him?
 O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts,
 And men have lost their reason. Bear with me;
 My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
 And I must pause till it come back to me.

After this speech, Antony shows the crowd Caesar's body, pointing out the wounds and explaining that Caesar died when Brutus, his friend, betrayed him. Next, he reads Caesar's will, which leaves money and lands to the public. By the time Antony is done, the crowd is furious with Brutus and Cassius.

Does Antony use all three persuasive appeals in his speech? See how he tries to win the public support. Refresh your memory on the types of persuasive appeals first, then read the text and the type of appeal Antony uses.

- **Emotions**—An appeal to emotions may include descriptions of events or places that have emotional meanings to the audience. Words with strong emotional connections may also be used, such as "friends," "heart," and "cry."
- **Reason**—An appeal to reason may include statistics or other facts that will bring audiences to a logical conclusion.
- **Ethics**—An appeal to ethics may include positive references to the audience's sense of right vs. wrong, in order to gain their trust and support.

Play**Text****Type of Persuasive Appeal**

For Brutus is an honourable man; So are they all, all honourable men

Antony repeats this theme throughout his speech, but as he goes on, it becomes more and more clear that he does not believe Brutus is an honorable man at all. Antony is using verbal irony. This is an interesting appeal to ethics because he allows the people in the crowd to feel as though they have come to their own conclusion: What Brutus did was dishonorable.

You all did see that on the Lupercal I thrice presented him a kingly crown, Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?

Antony appeals to reason here by providing specific examples of times when Caesar was not ambitious.

...Bear with me; My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar, And I must pause till it come back to me.

Finally, Antony appeals to emotion by nearly crying in front of the crowd over the loss of Caesar. He says that his heart is in the coffin with his friend

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Act III, scene ii: A street.

"I dreamt tonight that I did feast with Caesar,"—

— Cinna the poet

The last scene of Act III is brief and serves to show how the crowd has turned against Brutus, Cassius, and the others.

A man named Cinna, the poet, has arrived in town to attend Caesar's funeral. When the citizens hear that his name is Cinna, they at first believe he is Cinna the conspirator.

THIRD CITIZEN

Your name, sir, truly.

CINNA THE POET

Truly, my name is Cinna.

FIRST CITIZEN

Tear him to pieces; he's a conspirator.

CINNA THE POET

I am Cinna the poet, I am Cinna the poet.



Video © 1979 The British Broadcasting Corporation.

This exchange shows that the crowd is angry with the conspirators, and Brutus is likely in danger. Why did the Roman crowd turn against Brutus?

"Tear him, tear him! Come, brands ho! fire-brands: to Brutus', to Cassius'; burn all: some to Decius' house, and some to Casca's; some to Ligarius': away, go!"—

— Third Citizen

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Assessment Instructions

For this assessment you must demonstrate your understanding of persuasive appeals in Brutus and Mark Antony's speeches by completing a quiz. Review your notes on *Julius Caesar* before you access the quiz.

This information will help you with your argumentative writing project later in this unit.



Assignment

1. Complete the lesson.
2. Complete the self-checks in the lesson.
3. Complete the graphic organizer for Act III.
4. Complete the Persuasive Appeals quiz under Betrayal **04.04 Julius Caesar Act III**.

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Exam: 04.04 Julius Caesar Act III

Warning

There is a checkbox at the bottom of the exam form that you **MUST** check prior to submitting this exam. Failure to do so may cause your work to be lost.

Question 1 (Multiple Choice Worth 5 points)

Which of the following is an example of an appeal to emotion?

- "Of course it is wrong to let young people miss out on quality education."
- "I have read that one out of every seven adults is unable to read today."
- "The minds and hearts of our children depend on our loving care to grow."
- "To give a proper speech, proper lighting and attire are generally needed."

Question 2 (Multiple Choice Worth 5 points)

Which persuasive appeal is being used in the following lines?

*For Brutus is an honourable man;
So are they all, all honourable men*

- Ethics
- Emotion
- Reason
- Honor

Question 3 (Multiple Choice Worth 5 points)

Which of the following is an appeal to emotion?

- Descriptions of events or places that have meanings to the audience
- Positive references to the audience's sense of right versus wrong
- Strong organization and use of proper spelling, punctuation, and grammar
- Statistics or other facts that will bring audiences to a logical conclusion

Question 4 (Multiple Choice Worth 5 points)

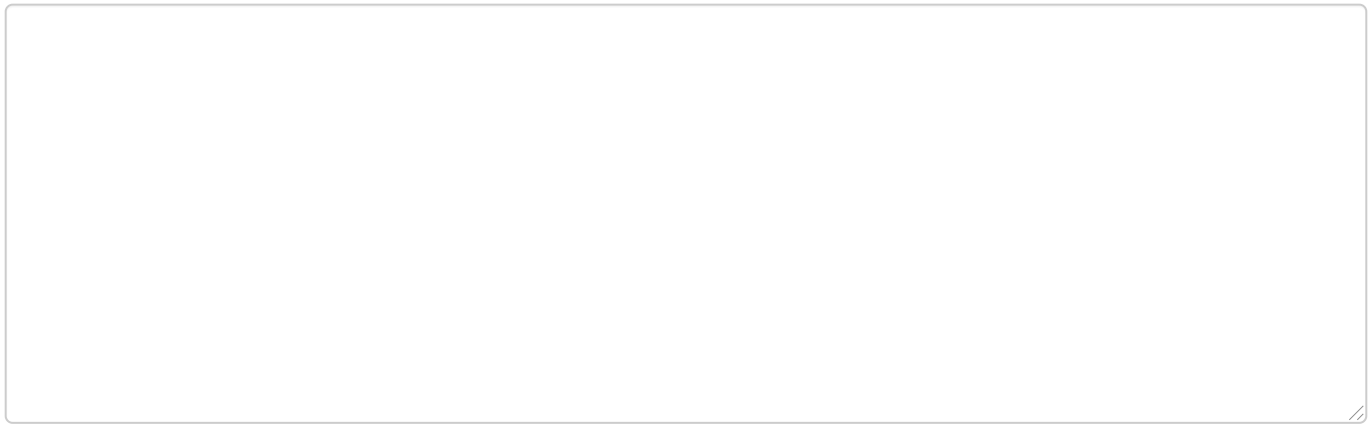
Which character said the following lines after Caesar's death?

*Bear with me;
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
And I must pause till it come back to me.*

- Brutus
- Cassius
- Calpurnia
- Antony

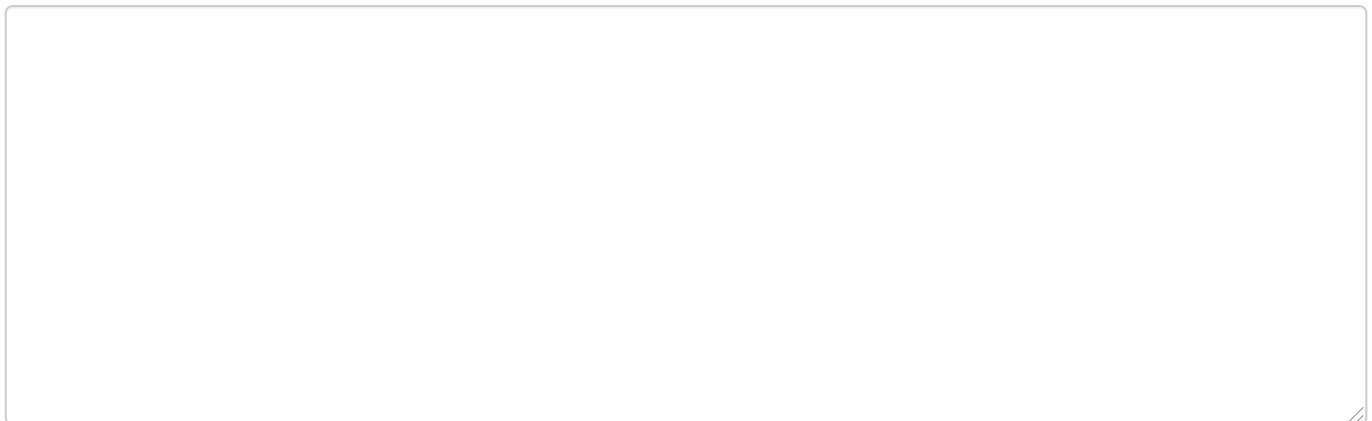
Question 5 (Essay Worth 15 points)

What are the major differences in Brutus and Antony's speeches? Write two paragraphs that describe their use of persuasive appeals, comparing and contrasting their speeches. Provide specific examples from the text to support your point. Use proper spelling and grammar.



Question 6 (Essay Worth 15 points)

Which speech made a stronger use of the appeal to **ethics**? Write two paragraphs that compare and contrast both speeches in terms of their appeals to ethics. Provide specific examples from the text to support your point. Use proper spelling and grammar.



You must check the box below prior to submitting your exam!