

William Shakespeare

Julius Caesar

LISTENING ACTIVITIES

5 Page 29

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and fill in the gaps.

'(1)? Me! You don't understand me,' Caesar said. 'I am Caesar, and I don't fear anyone. I only (2) that Cassius is a dangerous (3) of man. He thinks and (4), and he has no pleasures in life. That sort of man (5) greatness in others.'

Cassius whispered to Brutus, 'Look, there's Casca, let's ask him what's been going on.' He (6) Casca's arm as the crowd passed.

7 Page 36

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and answer the questions below.

- 1 What frightens Portia?
- 2 What does she tell the servant to do?
- 3 What does Portia ask the soothsayer?
- 4 Why is Portia frightened by what the soothsayer tells her?
- 5 What does Portia hope the gods will do?

9 Page 52

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and answer the questions below.

- 1 To whom is Artemidorus writing the letter?
- 2 Which conspirators does he mention by name?
- 3 What does he hope will happen?

11 Page 65

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and fill in the gaps.

Cassius: I did not think you could have been so (1)

Brutus: O Cassius, I am (2) of many griefs.

Cassius: Of your philosophy you make no (3)
If you give place to accidental evils.

Brutus: No man bears (4) better. Portia is (5)

Cassius: Ha? Portia?

Brutus: She is dead.

Cassius: How 'scaped I killing, when I cross'd you so? O (6) and touching loss!

15 Page 73

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and fill in the gaps.

Brutus: The last of all the (1), fare thee well!

It is (2) that ever Rome should breed thy fellow.

Friends, I owe more tears (3)

To this (4) man than you shall see me pay.

I shall (5) time, Cassius, I shall find time.

Come therefore, and to Thasos send his body.

His (6) shall not be in our camp,

Lest it discomfort us. Lucilius, come;

And come, young Cato, let us to the field.

15 Page 79

Listen to the audio CD carefully, and answer the questions below.

- 1 Who is the speaker?
 - 2 About whom is he speaking?
 - 3 The lines below are a modern English version of the original. Listen to the cassette again, and put them into the correct order.
- A He joined the conspiracy because he wanted to help the Roman people.
- B He was a good man, with very noble qualities.
- C All the conspirators except him killed Caesar because they were jealous of him.
- D He was the best of all the Romans.

Track 5 – Page 29

1 Frightened 2 said 3 sort
4 reads 5 envies 6 pulled

Track 7 – Page 36

- 1 The knowledge of her husband's conspiracy.
- 2 To go to the Senate House to see if Brutus is well, and to see what Caesar is doing.
- 3 If he is going to the Senate House that day.
- 4 She thinks the soothsayer may know about the conspiracy, and may try to warn Caesar of the danger.
- 5 She hopes the gods will protect Brutus.

Track 9 – Page 52

- 1 Caesar.
- 2 Brutus, Casca, Cassius and Decius.
- 3 He hopes that the gods will protect Caesar.

Track 11 – Page 65

- 1 angry 2 sick 3 use
- 4 sorrow 5 dead 6 insupportable

Track 13 – Page 73

- 1 Romans 2 impossible 3 tears
- 4 dead 5 find 6 funeral

Track 15 – Page 79

- 1 Antony 2 Brutus
- 3 A 3 B 4 C 2 D 1

TAPESCRIPTS

Track 7

Portia was a very brave woman, and she loved her husband very much. But when she knew that Brutus wanted to kill Caesar, she was frightened. She watched Brutus as he left the house. 'Will I ever see him again?' she asked herself. 'It's a dangerous thing he is going to do.' Suddenly she called her servant. 'Go to the Senate House,' she ordered. 'Go quickly!' 'What shall I do when I arrive there?' the servant asked her. 'See if Brutus is well,' Portia told him. 'And tell me what Caesar is doing.' Then Portia saw the soothsayer coming along the road. She stopped him. 'Are you going to the Senate House?' Portia asked him. 'I am,' the soothsayer replied. 'I have a message for Caesar. There is danger around him.' Portia was very frightened now. Did this man know about the conspiracy? Would he tell Caesar about her husband's plans? 'Brutus, I hope the gods protect you today,' she said quietly.

Track 9

I'm writing this to warn you. You are in danger. Be careful, Caesar. Don't trust Brutus. Cassius is your enemy. Casca is dangerous. Decius is not your friend. There is a conspiracy against you. I hope the Gods protect you! Your good friend, Artemidorus.

Track 11

This was the noblest Roman of them all. All the conspirators save he Did that they did in envy of great Caesar; He only, in a general honest thought And common good to all, made one of them. His life was gentle, and the elements So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up And say to all the world, 'This was a man!'