Julius Caesar Act II, Scene i, Rome, Lines 101-



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1. Throughout the play, the key characters develop unique perceptions of situations and other characters based on their experiences.

Lines 112-153 A.) Discuss how Brutus’ perception of swearing an oath is different from Cassius’. B.) How do Cassius’ and Brutus’ different experiences in dealing with Cicero affect each one’s perceptions of whether or not he should be a conspirator?

1. Analyze Lines 129-136 of Brutus’ speech. A.) Who does Brutus say are people who swear oaths. B.) Paraphrase lines 132-136.
2. Background – Cicero notes; In lines 141-153, the conspirators discuss inviting Cicero to join them. Marcus Tullius Cicero was one of the great speakers and writers of the age. His prose became the model for literary expression throughout Europe, and historians are among the most commonly studied Latin works. Cicero studied philosophy and rhetoric in Greece. After returning to Rome in 66 BC he was elected praetor (administrator of civil justice), in 63 BC, he was elected consul.

Cicero supported Pompey in his struggle with Caesar for control of Rome, and he approved of Caesar’s assassination. In 43 BC, when Octavius Caesar, Marc Antony, and Marcus Aemillius Lepidus assumed power as the Second Triumvirate. Cicero was one of many whom they condemned to death. He was killed at his home in Tuscany.

Reading Check: Why does Brutus think the conspirators should not swear an oath?

1. **Analyze** Lines 155-161, in which he proposes that Mark Antony also be killed. What reasons Cassius offers to justify the killing of Antony?
2. **Critical Viewing Page 922 in the textbook**.: What details of the image emphasize the differences between Brutus, on the left, and the other conspirators?
3. **Literary Analysis Blank Verse Lines 162-183**: A. ) Explain how the iambic pentameter in lines 172-174 helps emphasize contrasting ideas. B.) Go to the last short line of the speech…What is Shakespeare trying to achieve with such a short line?
4. According to Brutus, why should Antony not be killed?
5. R**eading Skill**- A.) Paraphrase Lines 229-233. B.) Explain which punctuation mark helps you identify the conclusion he draws.