Julius Caesar, Act II, Scene I, lines 234-334 (pgs 924-927)

1. **Blank Verse (pg 924):** Changing the rhythmic pattern of a line is a way of emphasizing ideas. Read line 240, stressing the first and fourth syllables. How does shifting the accent to the first and fourth syllables in line 240 add dramatic energy to this speech?
2. Portia and Brutus use formal pronoun, “you” when speaking to one another. Given that they are husband and wife, what effect does this formality have?
3. **Critical Thinking/Analyze (page 925):** Read lines 268-274. List words and phrases from these lines that pertain to Portia’s place in society.
4. In lines 268-274, what is Portia’s main argument for encouraging Brutus to tell her what is troubling him?
5. **Reading Skill/Paraphrase:** Read lines 280-286. Paraphrase Portia’s three questions.
6. What does Portia ask of Brutus?
7. **Critical Viewing (page 926):** What do the pose and expressions of Brutus and Portia in this film still reveal about their feelings?
8. Why does Portia feel that Brutus should confide in her?