

William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar

Text-based Multiple Choice Questions

ACT-I

Act I, Scene I

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (b) | 3. (d) | 4. (d) | 5. (b) |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

Act I, Scene II

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (c) | 4. (d) | 5. (b) |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

Act I, Scene III

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (c) | 4. (b) | 5. (a) |
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ACT-II

Act II, Scene I

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (b) | 4. (a) | 5. (c) |
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Act II, Scene II

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (d) | 3. (b) | 4. (a) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (a) | | | | |

Act II, Scene III

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (b) | 3. (b) | 4. (c) | 5. (b) |
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Act II, Scene IV

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (c) | 3. (b) | 4. (c) | 5. (c) |
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Context Questions

Act I, Scene I

PASSAGE 1

1. Marullus, one of the tribunes; speaks to one of the citizens who are rejoicing in a street in Rome.

2. 'He' referred to in the first line is Caesar. The speaker wants to convey that Caesar has brought no wealth to the state. So, there is no cause for rejoicing.
3. The conquest referred to in this extract is Caesar's victory over Pompey and his sons. The conqueror has not brought any territories because it was just victory in a civil war, and not on any foreign foe.
4. The speaker shows his anger to the listeners by calling them blocks, stones, heartless persons. He asks them to go to their work.
5. (a) No territories have been added to the state by Caesar's victory. No foreign enemy has been captured to fill coffers of the state.
(b) Caesar has not captured and chained any slaves to the chariot wheels to seek money from them. This victory is not at all glorious.

PASSAGE 2

1. He is one of the tribunes. He is angry with the citizens for neglecting their work and rejoicing in the street.
2. The citizens are out on the streets because it is the feast of the Lupercal. Besides, they are rejoicing and making merry at Caesar's victory over Pompey.
3. The second citizen has said earlier that he can mend him (Marullus). In fact he uses pun. His trade is mending the soles. He is a cobbler.
4. (a) (i) It means that if you feel annoyed. It also means that if you go out and wear your shoes out, your shoes will have to be mended.
(ii) There is a pun once again on 'mend'. It means the cobbler will mend the shoes. It also implies that he can 're-cover' his shoes.
(b) The second citizen reveals his identity in a round about manner by using 'pun' on the word 'mend'. He says that he is a cobbler, a mender of the soles of the shoes.

PASSAGE 3

1. Marullus is referring to Pompey and his victories in earlier times. Then the people would gather on walls and battlements, towers and windows to see 'Pompey's chariot pass through the street of Rome.
2. 'Replication' means echo and 'concave shore' means the hollow rocks which formed the banks of the Tiber.

The last two lines mean that people in their excitement and joy shouted and raised slogans in so high pitched voices, that it appeared that the river Tiber trembled with her hollow banks to hear the repeated echoes of the sound and noise made by the crowd.

3. Marullus tells them to run back to their houses and fall upon their knees and pray to God to protect them the punishment for their ingratitude.
4. Marullus makes them feel guilty of ingratitude because they had applauded Pompey for his victories. But now they have forgotten Pompey and are rejoicing over Caesar's triumph over Pompey and his sons.
5. Marullus's reprimand has the desired effect on the people. They immediately comply with the orders and disperse.

PASSAGE 4

1. Flavius has asked Marullus to go down towards the Capitol and strip off all the symbols of Caesar's victories. All decorations made in Caesar's honour should be removed.
2. Marullus is hesitant to carry out the orders of Flavius because it is the day of the feast of Lupercal, which is celebrated on 15th of February, in honour of the Roman god Luperus, the god of fertility.
3. Flavius takes upon himself the task of driving away the common people from the street. He also tries to ensure to check on Caesar's growing popularity.
4. Trophies are decorations like flower wreaths, neck garlands and scarves. Flavius wants that no images of Caesar's victory be left because he wishes Caesar not to be popular and beloved of the people.
5. Flavius is more assertive than Marullus because of his great bitter hostility towards Caesar whose wings he wants to cut to keep him at a low level.

PASSAGE 2

1. Brutus and Cassius are at a public place. It is the occasion of the feast of Lupercal. The scene is soon after Caesar exits.
2. Cassius has observed lately that Brutus' manner has become hard and he lacks the gentle look of friendship.
3. Brutus says that he is in no mood for games and frivolous activities. He tells Cassius that he lacks lively temperament which Antony has.
4. Brutus tells Cassius that he is suffering from internal conflict. That is why his attitude towards his friends has changed. It means no offence or neglect to friends, but he has failed to show customary respect and courtesies to others.
5. Cassius has his own selfish motive in showing his friendship towards Brutus. He wants to poison Brutus' mind by speaking about the growing powers and popularity of Caesar whereas Brutus is no less than Caesar in any way.

PASSAGE 3

1. Cassius goes on to tell Brutus that people hold him (Brutus) in high esteem and Brutus is unaware of his goodness and nobility. People are lamenting that the oppression by Caesar is not being noticed by Brutus.
2. Brutus refers to the dangerous insinuations made by Cassius. Brutus says that he is not aware of what oppression is there because being a close friend of Caesar, he does not notice Caesar's tyranny.
3. Cassius offers to be Brutus' mirror to reflect the latter's virtues about which Brutus is still unaware.
4. Cassius assures Brutus that he (Cassius) is never non-serious. He does not talk insincere or false things. He is a trusted friend who is loyal in friendship.
5. Brutus portrays himself as a wellwisher of the common people. He is ready to stake his honour for the sake of Rome if it faces tyranny.

PASSAGE 4

1. Brutus and Cassius are alone together after the exit of Caesar at the Lupercal festivities because they are discussing the affairs of the state in the wake of Caesar's triumph over Pompey and his sons.
2. Brutus is not in favour of Caesar becoming king because he fears republicanism can be in danger if all powers are vested in one person.
3. Cassius highlights Caesar's weaknesses as :
 - (1) he proved to be a poor swimmer when challenged to leap into the turbulent waters of the river Tiber and
 - (2) Caesar cried like a helpless girl when he was stricken with fever in Spain.