

Act I, Scene III

PASSAGE 1

1. Casca has just assured Cassius that, he is a trusted man who never betrays a friends' confidence. He has given him his hand that he is fully prepared to join the conspiracy to redress the wrongs.
2. It is Casca who gives the first stab to Caesar later on when the conspirators have gathered around Caesar to kill him.
3. The noble-minded Roman alluded to is Brutus who is acclaimed by all as noble and honourable. Brutus was considered Caesar's friend. He was a respectable official of Rome and beloved of the people.
4. This 'enterprise' is the conspiracy, a plot to kill Caesar in order to save the country from tyranny. It was 'honourable' because it was supposed to be noble and for

republicanism. But it was full of dangerous consequences as it could lead to the civil strife which is considered very dangerous for any country.

5. The speaker Cassius asks Casca to meet in a deserted street near Pompey's porch where all the other conspirators had been asked to gather for the enterprise.

PASSAGE 2

1. Cassius speaks these lines to Casca. The speaker is hinting at Caesar.
2. The Romans are now more inspired by their mother's spirits and the manner. So they are weak and timid like women. They are ready to submit to oppression.
3. Cassius compares the man (Julius Caesar) to him and his associates. He believes that that man is not superior to them, but he has become extraordinary and terrible.
4. Cassius wants to convey that the man (Caesar) is in no way superior to him or others. It is the people who have given him undue importance and undeserved honours that have made him threatening and fearful.
5. Cassius refers to the stormy weather to equate it with their enterprise which is 'bloody, fiery and terrible.' He wants Casca to commit his loyalty to their cause, justified by the stormy heavens.

PASSAGE 3

1. Cassius fears that if Caesar is crowned, the latter will behave like a tyrant. In that case, the Romans will be treated as slaves, whereas he himself is concerned he will kill himself with the dagger than submit to slavery.
2. Cassius will in no case submit to Caesar's slavery. He will liberate from any bondage by killing himself. To him death is honourable to slavery.
3. The gods have inspired the weak to stand against the tyrants fearlessly. By taking cudgels against the tyrants even the weak have defeated the designs of the tyrants.
4. Cassius is very shrewd. He stirs the spirit of Casca by saying that the strong men of the day have lost their manly qualities and have embraced women's spirits.
5. Cassius has portrayed himself as very courageous, fearless and a lover of liberty, ready to fight for republicanism. He is ready to die for the noble cause.

PASSAGE 4

1. According to Cassius the Romans are themselves to be blamed for Caesar's growing powers and the consequent tyranny. Caesar is behaving like a lion because the Romans have become sheep, timid or spineless.

2. Cassius tries to emphasise the point that the Romans are like the waste stuff, dirt or refuse and they deserve to be treated the way Caesar is treating them.
3. Cassius is very shrewd and he plays on Casca's emotions by saying that Casca seems to have accepted his bondage. He tauntingly says that he (Cassius) is ready and armed to defend himself whereas Casca is happy to welcome slavery.
4. Casca assures Cassius of his support by saying that he is a trustworthy friend, who is always serious to support a noble and honourable enterprise.
5. Cassius tries to instill a sense of encouragement in Casca in joining the conspiracy. He assures Casca that he has already ensured the support of the noble and honourable men in this enterprise. These men are waiting for him in Pompey's porch.

PASSAGE 5

1. Cassius gives Cinna a paper to be put under Brutus' chair. He gives Cinna another paper to be thrown into Brutus' room through the window. Still another paper to be posted on the statue of Brutus' ancestor.
2. After having completed the task, Cinna should come to Pompey's porch. Cassius is confident that Brutus has already covered a great path in joining the conspiracy.
3. Casca is keen on Brutus' joining the conspiracy because his approval and support to their plot will give more sanction and worthiness to their cause.
4. Towards the end of the scene Cassius becomes hopeful that Brutus' consent is valuable. Cassius has convinced most of the like-minded persons to join the conspiracy with his crafty arguments and in the name of republicanism.
5. On reading letters, in different handwritings, Brutus feels convinced that the enterprise of the conspirators to get rid of Caesar's oppression is worthy to be pursued at any risk.