

Tender Heart High School Sec-33B, Chandigarh

Class :X

Subject: English Literature 11.11.24

Act 5, Sc-1. Julius Caesar

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1. Antony tells Octavius that they (Brutus and Cassius) have come down to attack them immediately as they want to show that they are full of strength. It seems to be a part of their strategy.
2. The messenger informs them that the enemy is advancing in a brave array and red flag is displayed. Antony advises Octavius to lead the army slowly on the left side. Octavius disagrees with this. He says that he would lead the right wing. Earlier also Octavius did not want to wait but Antony had his say.
3. Under leadership of Brutus, they had decided to meet the enemy at Philippi. Brutus' argument was that if they waited and allowed the enemy to march through the district, the people there would join them. They would be reinforced. They wanted to cut them off from this advantage.
4. Antony taunts Brutus that along with his bad blow he uses good words also. Antony accuses him that they did not even warn Caesar before they stabbed him. It was most unethical. Antony compares them to dogs. They were kissing Caesar's feet while Casca stabbed from behind.
5. Octavius shows his capability when he draws out his sword and throws a challenge that he will not put it back till he has avenged thirty three wounds that were inflicted on Caesar's body or he will be killed by them.

QUESTION-2

1. When they were coming from Sardis two big eagles alighted on their foremost standards and ate from the soldiers. In the morning there were ravens, crows and kites flying and looking down on them. Cassius feels that their shadows were like a fatal canopy under which their army was lying.
2. Cassius tells Messala that in the morning he saw ravens, crows and kites flying and looking down on them as if they were sick animals of prey. Their shadows looked like a fatal canopy.
3. Here it appears that Cassius has become superstitious internally he is afraid so the flying of crows and kites seems inauspicious. Earlier he never believed in omens but of late he has started believing in superstitious happenings.
4. Cassius had always believed in the doctrines of Epicurus. But now he has discarded this philosophy because he has seen that omens foretell the future. This shows that he has begun to believe in superstitions.
5. Cassius was more practical and experienced than Brutus. But he allowed himself to be led by Brutus. Brutus committed one after the other many mistakes. Due to these mistakes of Brutus Cassius faced the down fall.

QUESTION-3

1. Brutus has just said that he would endure with patience whatever is ordained by gods who govern the lives of men.
2. The losers in the battle were tied and led in a triumphant march through the streets of Rome.

3. Brutus says that it is impossible to think that Brutus will ever go as a prisoner to Rome. He feels that he has a mind too noble to suffer such disgrace. This shows that he is truly honourable.
4. The Ides of March was the day when Caesar was killed by the conspirators. His murder led to a civil strife in Rome and many Romans were killed.
5. Brutus and Cassius do not meet again. They are compelled by pressing circumstances to commit suicide. They are not ready to face dishonour.

QUESTION-4

1. Must end that work the Ides of March begun.
2. The speaker is Brutus. He is speaking to Cassius.
3. The work begun by Brutus and others was to remove despotism and injustice by murdering Caesar. This day was significant because it was Ides of March.
4. As a result of this, people rose in revolt against them. They had to run away leaving their homes. They had to fight battle with Antony and Octavius which they lost.
5. 'He' referred to in the extract is Brutus. He would never surrender to be taken to Rome as a prisoner.
6. 'He' is brave and honest.

Act 5,Sc-2

CONTEXT QUESTIONS

QUESTION-1

1. The scene takes place on the plains of Philippi. Bills means written orders. It means Cassius and his troops. The literary device is repetition.
2. He has a misconception that he has broken the will of Octavius' army.
3. He gives the order to attack too early.
4. His over confidence is shown in this scene.
5. This strategy of Brutus becomes the cause of his doom. He wanted to prevent Antony from strengthening the forces but he failed.