

Class - VII Sec 33 BTeacher - Ms JaswinaSubject - English LiteratureChapter - 12 Julius Caesar

Students, this is your first assignment of term-II for the subject of English Literature. Now we will start with our second term syllabus chapter-12 of your English Literature book titled 'New Trends In English Reader.'

We are going to start with the reading of the play 'Julius Caesar' written by a well-known playwright William Shakespeare. Here, I am going to explain you some scenes of the play 'Julius Caesar'.

The scene-1 of the play begins when the powerful Roman General Julius Caesar returned to Rome after defeating his enemies, the sons of another general named Pompey. It was a terrible night when Caesar enters on the stage. It was really a frightening night. It seemed like something very bad was going to happen in Rome. In the meantime Caesar's wife whose name was Calpurnia came to him and told Caesar about her nightmare. She was extremely terrified. She told Caesar that she would not allow him to go anywhere that day as she was taking the nightmare an evil omen.

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But Caesar was not ready to listen her. She was requesting Caesar to not to go anywhere as many unusual things have been reported. Caesar says to Calpurnia that he would surely go because he never gave importance to omens. So there was no reason to stay at home. She told Caesar that she saw graves with dead bodies have open wide. Soldiers have been seen fighting among the clouds and their blood rain upon the Senate House. After listening to Calpurnia, Caesar says her "Cowards die many times before their actual death". But Calpurnia was continued to convince him to not to go to Senate House that day. Calpurnia says him to stay home for her sake and says Mark Antony will convey your message to Senate that you are ill. At last Caesar agreed and said "I will not go for your sake". Now Decius enters and said he had come to accompany him to Senate House. Then Caesar denied him to go to Senate and told him about the dream. But Decius convinced him saying that if

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he would not go to the Senate that day, the Senate may change its decision to offer him the crown. After listening Decius cunning advice, Caesar couldn't judge his motive behind and he was convinced to go to the Senate. He did not know that what was about to happen with him in the Senate. In this way ignoring his wife's warning Caesar got ready to go to Senate and he went there with Decius.

Scene - 2 begins at the Senate Hall when Caesar reached there, he saw all the conspirators were already present in the Senate Hall in Rome. All the conspirators had planned to call Julius Caesar in the Senate and to kill him. They all were jealous of Caesar because of his fame. They did not want him to grow any more. According to their plan as soon as Caesar reach there,

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Metellus a conspirator starts with his flattering words for Caesar. But Caesar said him that no flattering words could change his decision about his brother's banishment. In the meantime, Brutus a dear friend of Julius turned against Caesar. Caesar was greatly shocked at Brutus' behaviour. But Caesar was firm for his decision. Then another conspirator ^{Cassius} requested Caesar to change his decision for Cimber's freedom but Caesar said "I am like the pole-star, I will never change my position or decision". As soon as Cassius heard these words he attacked Caesar. He stabbed Caesar then all ^{the} other conspirators also stabbed him one after another. But when Caesar's dear friend Brutus stabbed him then Caesar said "This is you Brutus, who stabbed me, then let me die and Julius Caesar dies."

Students, we have done with scene-1 and scene-2 of the play Julius Caesar. You have been given the explanation of scene-1, 2 and in our next assignment we will

Continue with scene - 3 of the play Julius Caesar. Now you all are required to attempt the following questions on the basis of your understanding of scene - 1, 2 of the play.

- Q1. Who was Julius Caesar?
- Q2. Whom did he defeat in the battle?
- Q3. Why did Calpurnia want Caesar to stay at home?
- Q4. Where did Caesar about to go?

* Attempt exercise - 1 (A, B, C) in your book on page number - 74, 75 as a part of your home assignment.

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