

Caesar: Three Views Name: _____ Prd: ____ Score: _____ /20 pts.

Directions: Evidenzi la risposta nel testo a sinistra.

Rome was a **republic**; it had no kings. But it was *not* very democratic. Most of the power was in the hands of the Senate. Its members were **patricians**, & most were rich landowners.

For years, the **plebeians** (workers) fought for a *greater* voice in government. They won many important rights & elected their own leaders. But wealthy Romans *kept* control of the Senate.

All of Rome's wars hurt its farmers badly. They were soldiers & had to leave their farms to fight. Many were ruined by the wars.

Soon, plebeian leaders began to fight with patrician leaders for control of the government. A bloody civil war broke out. It lasted, on & off, *for more than a century*.

Finally, a Roman general named **Julius Caesar** took power. The Senate became helpless.

Caesar was no ordinary man. To his soldiers, he was almost a god. To plebeians, he was a great hero. To the Senate, he was an evil man wished to be king.

Suppose that you are in the Roman **Forum** (the main public meeting place) in 45 BC. Here is what some of the people are saying about Caesar:

Roman Soldier: I served with Caesar for 8 years in *Gaul* (modern France). I tell you, there is not a greater general or a braver man anywhere. Many times the enemy had 3 soldiers or more for every Roman soldier. Often we were sure the enemy would defeat us. Once we had to fight an army of very tough Germans. These Germans were *hired* by the Gauls to *fight* for them. Before the battle, we were so scared that we made out our wills. The officers *begged* Caesar to turn back, but Caesar reminded them of the times that Roman soldiers had smashed German armies. He said he was ready to fight with only one legion (6,000 men,) if necessary. He made us feel so ashamed, we could not wait for the battle to start.

A **republic** is *defined as* "a form of government where citizens *elect* representatives...A **democracy** is *defined as* "rule by (all) the people." Therefore, the U.S. is *really* a (democracy / republic. ← circle 1)

Matching: Match definition to its term

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ patricians | a. common workers/farmers |
| _____ plebeians | b. wealthy land owners |

How did war, itself, *hurt* Rome's farmers? _____

_____ & _____ leaders soon *fought for control of the government* for a century. (...did you know that is equal to 100 years?)

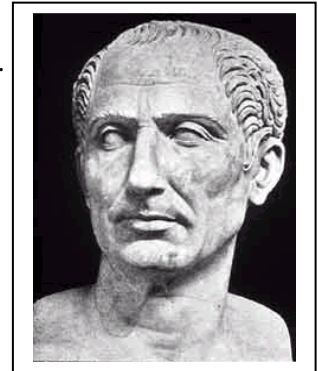
_____ eventually *took control!*

Matching: Match belief re: Caesar to its group.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| _____ plebeians | a. "He's almost a god!!!" |
| _____ Senators | b. "Ahh, yes! A great hero!" |
| _____ soldiers | c. "Oh no, he's evil!!!" |

A **forum** was the _____

Caesar: "I love the name of honor, *more than* I fear death."



Applying past knowledge: The term for "soldiers for hire" is _____.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| a. conscripted soldiers | c. mercenaries |
| b. slaves | d. helots |

How did Caesar *encourage* his soldiers to *fight*?

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| a. made them feel shame | c. paid them well |
| b. humiliated them | d. conned them into <i>individually & personally</i> believing they'd win |

During the battle, Caesar was everywhere urging us on. Once he saw some men who were about to give up. He grabbed a shield & ordered them *to follow him*. At once, the men began to fight again *behind* Caesar. Finally, the Germans broke & ran for their lives!

Yes, Caesar shared all our dangers. He fought with us, ate with us & lived with us! I would fight for him again any time, any place!

Roman worker: Julius Caesar has done more for plebeians than any other Roman. Sure he is a noble & very rich, but he has always been for the poor. Look at all the things he has done for us. When he became **dictator**, he gave us a holiday that lasted for 10 days! He spent a fortune to entertain us! There were big parades & sports events the entire time. In one stadium alone, 400 lions were killed by the gladiators! In another, the soldiers put on a huge make-believe battle. And there were plays in all the theatres!

One day Caesar even gave a party for 20,000 poor people. He gave them money, bread & oil for their lamps! He was even more generous to his soldiers, giving them each some land to farm!

Since then, Caesar has given jobs to army veterans & helped people who owe money. He was even allowed some very poor people to stop paying their rent. Now he is planning *to build new roads, canals, temples & theatres*. Think of all the jobs that will give to the Romans who are out of work! Yes, Julius Caesar is a great man! He is the **BEST** friend the common people ever had.

Roman Senator: Julius Caesar is *the most* dangerous man that Rome has ever seen! He doesn't really care about the poor people. He just buys their support by giving them shows & handing out bread. The only thing Caesar cares about is power; power for himself! Sure, it was the Senate that voted to make him dictator. *But what could we do?*



In times of battle, **what strategy (-ies)** did **Caesar use to encourage his troops?**

- gave orders from the rear
- led from the front
- fought with his troops
- lived & ate with his troops
- all the above
- only b, c & d

T or F: ← circle 1: Caesar was only for the noble & rich Patrician class.

Applying past knowledge: By definition, a **dictator** is _____.

(Look it up in a dictionary, if you don't know it. Don't guess!)

What **entertainment** did **Caesar pay for** during a 10-day holiday? 1) _____
2) _____
3) _____

For his soldiers, **Caesar gave** them _____.
And for the poor, he **gave** _____,
_____, & _____.

Caesar, also devoted to his city, did what things to increase jobs for the unemployed in Rome?

Senators, on the other hand, **believed** that **Caesar**

- bought the support of the poor
- didn't really care about the poor
- was only interested in power for himself
- all the above
- only a & b
- only b & c

Caesar had the army & the common people behind him. We were helpless. We had to make him dictator, or else! No one could stop him from taking power. Now he treats even the greatest senators as if they were beggars. Soon he will want to be king! Then he will get rid of the Senate, & there will be no more voting by the people. Yes, the republic is in danger as long as Caesar lives! *We must save the republic & get rid of this evil, evil man!*

Many other senators thought the same way about Caesar. In 44 BC, fifty of them joined in a plot to kill Caesar. One was a man Caesar had always liked, by the name of Marcus Brutus.

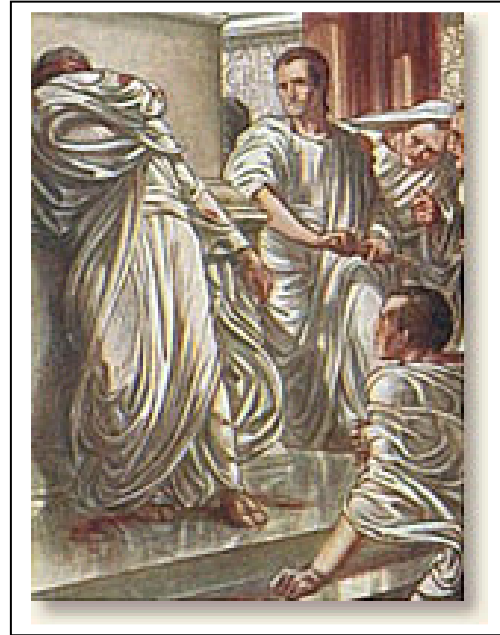
The day picked for the murder was March 15th. That day, Caesar paid a visit to the Senate. One senator asked Caesar for a special favor. Caesar said no. Then the senator pulled back Caesar's robe, showing his neck & chest. That was the signal for murder!

Other senators rushed at Caesar with daggers & began to stab him repeatedly. At first, Caesar tried to defend himself. But then he saw Brutus come at him.

"Et tu, Bruté," ("You, also, Brutus?") he asked Brutus. Then he covered his face with his robe as Brutus *stabbed him to death!*

The murder of Caesar did not save the republic. By 30 BC, Caesar's adopted son, Octavian, took complete power in Rome. Octavian became Rome's first emperor. The Roman **Republic** was gone. And in its place was the Roman **Empire!**

Senators *believed* that *first* Caesar would be named _____; *then* he would want to be named _____!



The *signal* for Caesar's murder was: _____

Who all was *involved* in Caesar's assassination?

How did Caesar die? _____

BONUS: March 15th was referred to as the *middle of the month*. Now this date is referred to as the " _____ of _____."

