

## *Julius Caesar* Essay

English II · Thompson

**Directions: Pick *one* of the following thesis statements for your literary analysis paper. Supply the necessary information in the blank(s).**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the main character in the play *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the most tragic character in the play *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.
3. \_\_\_\_\_'s tragic flaw of \_\_\_\_\_ causes the terrible things that happen to him in the play *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

### **Requirements:**

- ✓ A clear, specific idea expressed in your thesis. A good thesis is an argument. It is what you are trying to prove in the body of your paper.
- ✓ An introduction with an opening statement and then the thesis
- ✓ The body of your essay should contain multiple paragraphs that illustrate and develop the thesis. Remember the importance of topic and concluding sentences for keeping your paragraphs unified and coherent. Transitional words and/or phrases should be used, especially in the topic sentence.
- ✓ A conclusion that briefly summarizes your main points and ends with a memorable comment.
- ✓ You must have quotes and examples from the play. Select quotes carefully and remember to integrate them smoothly in your paragraphs. You must have either 2 quotes per body paragraph or 1 quote and another specific example. Develop thoughtful explanations for your quotes.
- ✓ A works cited page
- ✓ Between two and three full typed pages in length (600-800 words)

### **Since this is a formal literary analysis, keep in mind these conventions:**

- Correct MLA format
- 12 point type, Times New Roman
- Correct citations for the quotes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> person; no use of "I" or "you"
- Use of present tense when talking about events in the plot
- Use of a variety of sentence structures
- No contractions

### **Helpful Hints:**

- Do not write a plot summary. I am your audience, and I have read *Julius Caesar*. Be sure your topic sentences are related to your thesis statement.
- Properly format the title of the play, and always give credit to the author.
- All requirements (listed above) must be met, or else the paper will not be accepted. Late papers lose one grade per day.

**Outline Due:** \_\_\_\_\_      **Introductory Paragraph Due:** \_\_\_\_\_      **Paper Due:** \_\_\_\_\_