

07/12 MARCH 2017



“The Death of Caesar,” a 19th century painting by Karl von Piloty

image from <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/cf/bf/30/cfbf30b1827684ec85443263b2015ed2.jpg>

Greetings, Carpenters, Cobblers, and Other Mechanicals in the Mob—

Please place your Shakespeare background and “Twenty Facts Every CAC Graduate Should Know About William Shakespeare” handout where I can check it while you WEDGE.

Here’s how we’ll roll:

- 1. miniWEDGE**—For roughly five minutes, write down your initial impressions about the characters and plot in the first two scenes of *Julius Caesar*.
- 2. Checking Some Facts**—We’ll make sure we all know the answers to the questions on our “Twenty Facts...” sheet.
- 3. Addressing the Problem of Reading Plays**—We will dedicate the largest portion of our class today to attempting to overcome this problem. But we will also talk about one advantage derived from reading plays instead of viewing them!

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—
Mr Leo

Homework:

1. Read and take notes in a digital document on *Julius Caesar*, Act 1, Scene 3. While you will not find every motif in every reading assignment, your notes should pay particular attention to the following motifs in the play:

- a. Political Power (who should rule?)
- b. Fate vs Free Will
- c. The Importance of Public Speaking/Effective Rhetoric
- d. The Problem with Mobs
- e. Order vs Chaos
- f. The Private Man/The Public Politician
- g. Gender and Power
- h. Honor vs. Ambition vs. Public Duty
- i. The Metaphor of Illness and Disease
- j. Love and Friendship
- k. Blood and “Spirit”
- l. The Problem of Political Succession and/or The Transfer of Power (for example, does a political assassination ever end with only one death?)

Each note should have three parts:

Motif + textual evidence (with citation) + your comment

N.B. The convention for citing Shakespeare is to indicate in parentheses the act number, scene number, and line numbers. For example, (2.1.134-136) indicates text derived from Act 2, scene 1, lines 134-136.

2. Upload your Act I Scene 3 notes to Turnitin.com prior to the start of class.

3. Dig out your copy of *Animal Farm* and bring it to class so we can return it to the bookroom!