

Prepare to Read

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar



Take It to the Net

Visit www.phschool.com for interactive activities and instruction related to the play, including

- background
- graphic organizers
- literary elements
- reading strategies

Preview

Connecting to the Literature

Although political powers sometimes try to persuade each other with words, often they try to “persuade” each other with violence or war, too. Persuasion with both words and force plays an important role in this play.

Background

Julius Caesar was a great general, a gifted speaker, and a popular ruler—so why would anyone want to kill him? Shakespeare did not make up this tragic tale of power and betrayal. He based his play on real people and real events. Shakespeare read about Caesar (and his friends and enemies) in the chronicles of Plutarch, a Greek biographer who delved into the psychological as well as factual details of his subjects’ lives.