

English II: *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*
The Art of Persuasion: Rhetorical Analysis

Directions: Reread the two monologues that Cassius uses to introduce Brutus to his ideas against Caesar's growing power. Examine the "Rhetorical Techniques in Cassius' Monologues" handout. Each of the categories of persuasive techniques on that handout have a "1" for Monologue One or a "2" for Monologue Two. Find those techniques in the speeches, and *write the number(s) of the line(s) in the empty cells*. Then highlight each example of persuasive argument in these two monologues. Next, label each of those arguments you've highlighted as *persuasive technique*. In addition, label each of those arguments as to *type of argument* according to Aristotle's three types (logos, pathos, ethos). Finally, write beside those lines in the speech *why each argument is effective* as Cassius attempts to persuade Brutus to be against Caesar's growing power.

Cassius' First Monologue

1. I know that virtue to be in you, Brutus,
2. As well as I do know your outward favor.
3. Well, honor is the subject of my story.
4. I cannot tell what you and other men
5. Think of this life; but for my single self,
6. I had as lief not be as live to be
7. In awe of such a thing as myself.
8. I was born free as Caesar; so were you.
9. We both have fed as well, and we can both
10. Endure the winter's cold as well as he.
11. For once, upon a raw and gusty day,
12. The troubled Tiber chafing with her shores,
13. Caesar said to me, 'Dar'st thou, Cassius, now
14. Leap in with me into this angry flood
15. And swim to yonder point?' Upon the word,
16. Accoutred as I was, I plungèd in
17. And bade him follow. So indeed he did.
18. The torrent roared, and we did buffet it
19. With lusty sinews, throwing it aside
20. And stemming it with hearts of controversy.
21. But ere we could arrive the point proposed,
22. Caesar cried, 'Help me, Cassius, or I sink!'
23. I, as Aeneas, our great ancestor,
24. Did from the flames of Troy upon his shoulder
25. The old Anchises bear, so from the waves of Tiber
26. Did I the tirèd Caesar. And this man
27. Is now become a god, and Cassius is
28. A wretched creature and must bend his body
29. If Caesar carelessly but nod on him.
30. He had a fever when he was in Spain,

31. And when the fit was on him, I did mark
32. How he did shake. 'Tis true, this god did shake.
33. His coward lips did from their color fly,
34. And that same eye whose bend doth awe the world
35. Did lose his luster. I did hear him groan.
36. Ay, and that tongue of his that bade the Romans
37. Mark him and write his speeches in their books,
38. 'Alas,' it cried, 'give me some drink, Titinius,'
39. As a sick girl! Ye gods it doth amaze me
40. A man of such feeble temper should
41. So get the start of the majestic world
42. And bear the palm alone.

Cassius' Second Monologue

1. Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world
2. Like a Colossus, and we petty men
3. Walk under his huge legs and peep about
4. To find ourselves dishonourable graves.
5. Men at some time are masters of their fates:
6. The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
7. But in ourselves, that we are underlings.
8. Brutus and Caesar: what should be in that 'Caesar'?
9. Why should that name be sounded more than yours?
10. Write them together, yours is as fair a name;
11. Sound them, it doth become the mouth as well;
12. Weigh them, it is as heavy; conjure with 'em,
13. Brutus will start a spirit as soon as Caesar.
14. Now, in the names of all the gods at once,
15. Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed,
16. That he is grown so great? Age, thou art shamed!
17. Rome, thou hast lost the breed of noble bloods!
18. When went there by an age, since the great flood,
19. But it was famed with more than with one man?
20. When could they say till now, that talk'd of Rome,
21. That her wide walls encompass'd but one man?
22. Now is it Rome indeed and room enough,
23. When there is in it but one only man.
24. O, you and I have heard our fathers say,
25. There was a Brutus once that would have brook'd
26. The eternal devil to keep his state in Rome
27. As easily as a king.