Name:

# Act 4, Scene 3: Brutus and Cassius

**Directions:** Use the following questions to understand the conversation between the two conspirators at the beginning of the scene.

1. Which of the two men dominates the scene? In what way is his behavior uncharacteristic?

2. What accusations does Brutus level at Cassius?

3. Ironically, what first causes Brutus's anger at Cassius?

4. What does Cassius do that causes Brutus to desist?

5. How does the conversation between the two men then change?


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6. After the poet leaves, what reason does Brutus give for his hot temper at the beginning of the scene?

7. Titinius and Messala bring news. What event seems imminent?

8. Cassius is the more experienced soldier. What does he want to do? Why does he yield to Brutus's plan?

9. Once all of the messengers and visitors have left, what does Brutus do? What do these activities show about him?

10. What interrupts Brutus's reading? Explain both the dramatic and the literary values of the interruption. How does Brutus react?

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