

Julius Caesar

FREEZE, ANIMATE, FREEZE (Thanks to The Royal Shakespeare Company)

1. FREEZE-FRAME: The crowds cheer as Caesar and his wife Calphurnia parade through Rome in triumph after another successful military campaign.

ANIMATE:

Soothsayer: Beware the ides of March.

Caesar: What man is that?

Brutus: A soothsayer bids you beware the Ides of March.

Caesar: He is a dreamer. Let us leave him. Pass.

FREEZE

2. FREEZE-FRAME: Caesar sees senators Brutus and Cassius, deep in conversation and is suspicious that they may be plotting against him.

ANIMATE:

Caesar (to Mark Antony): Let me have men about me that are fat.
Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry look.

Mark Antony: Fear him not, he's not dangerous.

Caesar: Would he were fatter; but I fear him not

FREEZE

3. FREEZE-FRAME: The conspirators (Cassius, Decius, Casca, Metellus, Cinna) meet in Brutus's orchard garden and agree to kill Caesar.

ANIMATE:

Brutus: Give me your hands all over, one by one.

Cassius: And let us swear our resolution

FREEZE

4. FREEZE-FRAME: Calphurnia begs Caesar not to go to the senate.

ANIMATE:

Calphurnia: Caesar, I never stood on ceremonies,
Yet now they fright me.
Horses did neigh, and dying men did groan,
And ghosts did shriek and squeal about the streets.
O Caesar! these things are beyond all use,
And I do fear them.

Caesar: Yet Caesar shall go forth; for these predictions
Are to the world in general as to Caesar.

FREEZE

5. FREEZE-FRAME: Caesar arrives at the senate. Brutus, Cassius, Casca, Decius Brutus, Cinna, Metellus and Trebonius stab him to death.

ANIMATE:

Casca: Speak hands for me! (They stab Caesar)

Caesar: Et tu Brute? Then fall Caesar (He dies)

All: Liberty! Freedom! Tyranny is dead!

FREEZE

6. FREEZE-FRAME: The crowds cheer for Brutus. Mark Antony stands over Caesar's dead body to speak to the people.

ANIMATE:

Mark Antony: Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears.

I come to bury Caesar not to praise him. ...

You all did love him once, not without cause;

FREEZE

7. FREEZE-FRAME: Fired up by Mark Antony's speech, the Roman people vow to kill the conspirators

ANIMATE:

Mark Antony: But were I Brutus,
And Brutus Antony, there were an Antony
Would ruffle up your spirits, and put a tongue
In every wound of Caesar that should move
The stones of Rome to rise and mutiny.

All: We'll mutiny.

First Plebeian: We'll burn the house of Brutus.

Third Plebeian: Away, then! Come, seek the conspirators.

FREEZE

8. FREEZE-FRAME: Cinna the poet is murdered.

ANIMATE:

Cinna: Truly, my name is Cinna.

First Plebeian: Tear him to pieces! He's a conspirator.

Cinna: I am Cinna the poet! I am Cinna the poet!

Fourth Plebeian: Tear him for his bad verses! Tear him for his bad verses!

FREEZE

9. FREEZE-FRAME: The ghost of Caesar appears to Brutus in his tent

ANIMATE:

Brutus: Ha! Who comes here?

I think it is the weakness of mine eyes

That shapes this monstrous apparition.

It comes upon me. Art thou anything?

Art thou some god, some angel, or some devil,

That mak'st my blood cold, and my hair to stare?

Speak to me what thou art.

Ghost: Thy evil spirit, Brutus.

Brutus: Why com'st thou?

Ghost: To tell thee thou shalt see me at Philippi.

FREEZE

10. FREEZE-FRAME: Cassius commits suicide rather than be captured.

ANIMATE:

Cassius: Here, take thou the hilts,
And when my face is covered, as 'tis now,
Guide thou the sword – Caesar, thou art revenged,
Even with the sword that killed thee.

FREEZE

11. FREEZE-FRAME: Mark Antony learns that Brutus has committed suicide.

ANIMATE:

Mark Antony: This was the noblest Roman of them all.
All the conspirators save only he
Did that they did in envy of great Caesar;
He, only in a general honest thought
And common good to all, made one of them.

FREEZE