

# ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA STUDY GUIDE ACT IV

NAME:

PERIOD:

## LEVEL ONE (KNOWLEDGE) QUESTIONS

*Provide a brief answer to each of these questions.*

1. Why does Caesar refuse to fight a duel with Antony?
2. Why does Antony want Cleopatra to watch him fight against Caesar?
3. Why does Antony compare himself to a man of steel before the last battle?
4. Who deserts Antony?
5. Which wounded soldier gives Antony courage and hope in the battle?
6. What does Antony promise to do to Cleopatra after the battle is lost?
7. How does Cleopatra plan to escape Antony's rage?
8. Who takes Antony's sword?
9. Why does Antony believe that Cleopatra's ships have left the fight?



## LEVEL TWO (COMPREHENSION) QUESTIONS

*Write at least one complete sentence to answer each of these questions, using evidence from the play when you can.*

1. What does Maecenas tell Caesar to take advantage of in his conflict with Antony?
2. How does Antony badly upset his servants?
3. What does it mean when the soliders say that Hercules has left Antony's side?
4. Why does Enobarbus immediately regret his decision to join Caesar?
5. What does Antony do that fills Enobarbus with shame?
6. Shakespeare places Antony's victorious scene between Enobarbus's despairing death scenes. Why?
7. Explain what Antony means when he says he can't keep his shape.
8. Why does Antony seem to want to join Cleopatra in the afterworld?
9. Why does Eros refuse Antony's command?
10. Why does the solider who takes Antony's sword do it?
11. What does Antony mean when he says he will die like a Roman?

### LEVEL THREE (CRITICAL THINKING) QUESTIONS

Answer each of these questions with at least 4 sentences. Use evidence from the play.

1. How and why does Enobarbus die? What does his death show about Antony? What does it show about the life of Roman soldiers, torn between competing loyalties?
2. Even on his deathbed Antony forgives Cleopatra's many deceptions and makes a heartfelt farewell. With so many noble qualities, what is Antony's weakness or tragic flaw, according to Aristotelean theory, that causes his downfall?

### SECTION 4. QUOTATION ANALYSIS

Rewrite each of these passages into contemporary English. Do not summarize the language, but rewrite it.

(ACT 4, Scene 15) CLEOPATRA

No more, but e'en a woman, and commanded  
By such poor passion as the maid that milks  
And does the meanest chares. It were for me  
To throw my sceptre at the injurious gods;  
To tell them that this world did equal theirs  
Till they had stol'n our jewel. All's but naught;  
Patience is scottish, and impatience does  
Become a dog that's mad: then is it sin  
To rush into the secret house of death,  
Ere death dare come to us? How do you, women?  
What, what! good cheer! Why, how now,  
Charmian!  
My noble girls! Ah, women, women, look,  
Our lamp is spent, it's out! Good sirs, take heart:  
We'll bury him; and then, what's brave,  
what's noble,  
Let's do it after the high Roman fashion,  
And make death proud to take us. Come, away:  
This case of that huge spirit now is cold:  
Ah, women, women! come; we have no friend  
But resolution, and the briefest end.

