



## All by myself...

The big one, using the same structure as before, you are going to discuss how

EITHER:

Antony is a successful leader and politician whereas Brutus is blinded by his power and naivete; Brutus misjudges both his own words and Antony's true intentions, while Antony powerfully uses Brutus' argument against him.

OR

Antony can be seen as a strong, skilled speaker but Shakespeare creates ambiguity over his true intentions/whether he is a 'good' man.

For either choice, you need a range of quotes and techniques. Try to start weaving them in with your own phrasing and ideas to begin a more fluent and powerful style.

Use a formal, powerful style with strong (but not over-flowery) vocabulary. Use sentence stems to structure the flow of your ideas.

Step 1: make a point & use the keywords, BRIEFLY sum up what happens.

Step 2: brief quote, translate and explain

Repeat with 1-2 more quotes. Try at least one alternative interpretation if you can.

Step 3: Analysis123: 1)Keywords; 2)Effect on the reader; 3) Relevance today



Shakespeare uses the technique of ambiguity to show how Antony can be seen as a strong, skilled speaker but how his intentions are not entirely clear nor good and additionally that he is not the gallant man he is portrayed to be.

Shakespeare does this after the assassins leave and he says, "Blood and destruction shall be so in use, And dreadful objects so familiar." This is referring to the wars that will come after his plan for revenge on Caesar is enacted. The really scary part is when he then says, "That mothers shall but smile when they behold, their infants quarter'd by the hands of war;" This means that during the wars to come mothers who hold their children as the dearest and most precious things in their lives, more important than anything else, would smile once their infants were quarter'd, in this case meaning brutally butchered, as it would be a relief to them that their precious children would not be subjected to such horrors. However this could also mean that their mothers after being subjected to the horrific catastrophe of war would take pleasure in seeing their infants being quarter'd in a horrendously perverse and disgusting way. Because of Shakespeare's use of ambiguity this contrasts very heavily with what many people see as Antony being a gallant man. They see this not as having the gruesome and disturbing meaning it does, but rather that Antony is just speaking strongly and skillfully to the audience about the consequences regarding the future because of the assassins killing Caesar. The ambiguity makes it seem like Antony is well within his rights to spark the flames of war regardless of the consequences, in this case mothers smiling as their infants are quarter'd. But in reality this is for his own personal gain and that no gallant man would ever spark war sacrificing thousands of infants, children and people alike for his own gain. Through this, Shakespeare communicates and shows through the technique of ambiguity the idea that Antony can be seen as a strong, skilled speaker but how his intentions are not entirely clear nor good and additionally that he is not the gallant man he is portrayed to be. We see this through some of the staggeringly perverse and disgusting lines Antony says before his speech. Through this, it shows the double meanings of many things people say on a daily basis and to an audience which are very hard to interpret. This is why Shakespeare is still taught today as it teaches us how to understand and interpret what people say and the double meanings behind it. And in this new modern world, the messages behind Shakespeare's works are becoming increasingly relevant.