



Julius Caesar Jobs, Vocations, and Archaic Nouns

This worksheet presents a list of jobs, vocations, and archaic nouns found in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Completing this worksheet will help you identify the positions and roles of various characters and define some of the archaic terms found in the play.

In column 1: Read the term from *Julius Caesar*.

In column 2: Read the quote in which the term is found.

In column 3: Read the definition of the term in context.

In column 4: Modernize the term by listing any words that represent the modern equivalent of the archaic term. Feel free to include colloquial language such as slang terms.

Term	Quote from <i>Julius Caesar</i> Using the Term	Definition of the Term in Context	Modern Equivalent
ague	Caius Ligarius, Caesar was ne'er so much your enemy As that same ague which hath made you lean. (No Fear: 2.2.112–114)	an illness	sickness, disease, infection, virus, bug
augurers	It may be, these apparent prodigies, The unaccustomed terror of this night, And the persuasion of his augurers May hold him from the Capitol to-day. (No Fear: 2.1.206–209)	a priest who predicts the future	psychic, fortune teller
bondmen	Go show your slaves how choleric you are And make your bondmen tremble. Must I budge?" (No Fear: 4.3.45–46)	servants	help, workers, laborers

cobbler	Thou art a cobbler , art thou? (No Fear: 1.1.21)	a person who puts things together or mends things	
cognizance	Your statue spouting blood in many pipes, In which so many smiling Romans bathed, Signifies that from you great Rome shall suck Reviving blood, and that great men shall press For tinctures, stains, relics, and cognizance . (No Fear: 2.2.85–89)	a symbol or emblem worn to make it easy to visually identify a nobleman's followers	
coronet	"I saw Mark Antony offer him a crown (yet 'twas not a crown neither, 'twas one of these coronets) and, as I told you, he put it by once—" (No Fear: 1.2.237)	a small crown constructed of simple materials, such as ivy or leaves	
drachma	To every Roman citizen he gives— To every several man—seventy-five drachmas . (No Fear: 3.2.233–234)	a form of currency used in Rome	
ides	Beware the ides of March. (No Fear: 1.2.20)	the middle of the month, usually the fifteenth of the month	
knave	What, thou speak'st drowsily? Poor knave , I blame thee not. Thou art o'erwatched. (No Fear: 4.3.247–248)	a boy servant	
plebeian	<i>Enter BRUTUS and CASSIUS with the PLEBEIANS</i> (No Fear: 3.2.1)	a Roman commoner	

proscription	So you thought him, And took his voice who should be pricked to die In our black sentence and proscription . (No Fear: 4.1.16–18)	a death sentence	
schedule	(<i>offering his letter</i>) Hail, Caesar! Read this schedule . (No Fear: 3.1.3)	a scroll or letter	
soothsayer	A soothsayer bids you beware the ides of March. (No Fear: 1.2.22)	a person who can see the future	
taper	The taper burneth in your closet, sir. (No fear: 2.1.35)	a candle	
tribunes	Dramatis Personae: Marullus and Flavius are described as tribunes .	a Roman legionary officer chosen by the people to protect them	
tributaries	Wherefore rejoice? What conquest brings he home? What tributaries follow him to Rome[?] (No Fear: 1.1.32–33)	a conquered ruler or state that pays tribute (money) to the conquering country or leader	
vessel	Now is that noble vessel full of grief, That it runs over even at his eyes. (No Fear: 5.5.17–18)	a human being	

RL.9–10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

L.9–10.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grades 9–10 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

L.9–10.5 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.