

Name:  
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## Different Views of Caesar and the Assassination:

**Directions:** Read this passage from Cicero and Dio Cassio and answer the questions below in your Interactive Notebook in complete sentences.

### Cicero's View of the Assassination

“Our tyrant deserved his death for having made an exception of the one thing that was the blackest crime of all . . . Behold, here you have a man [Caesar] who was ambitious to be king of the Roman People and master of the whole world; and he achieved it! The man who maintains that such an ambition is morally right is a madman, for he justifies the destruction of law and liberty . . .

“For, oh ye immortal gods! Can the most horrible and hideous of all murders—that of fatherland—bring advantage to anybody, even though he who has committed such a crime receives from his enslaved fellow-citizens the title of ‘Father of his Country’?”

#### Questions:

1. What is the “blackest crime of all” to Cicero?
2. What does Cicero claim Caesar was becoming?
3. What form of government does Cicero favor?
4. What does Cicero mean by the “murder of the Fatherland”? Who does he think has committed that murder?

### Dio Cassius' view of Caesar and the Assassination

**Directions:** Read this passage from Dio Cassius and answer the questions below.

“A [madness] fell upon certain men through jealousy of Caesar's advancement and hatred of his preferment to themselves caused his death unlawfully . . .

“His slayers, to be sure, declared that they had shown themselves at once destroyers of Caesar and liberators of the people; but in reality they impiously plotted against him, and they threw the city into disorder when at last it possessed a stable government.

“Democracy, indeed, has a fair-appearing name and conveys the impression of bringing equal rights to all through equal laws, but its results are seen not to agree with its title. Monarchy, on the [other hand], has an unpleasant sound, but is a most practical form of government to live under. For it is easier to find a single excellent man than many of them . . .”

#### Questions:

5. What is Dio Cassius' view of the men who killed Caesar?
6. What does Dio Cassius think of Caesar?
7. What does Dio Cassius think of democracy?
8. What form of government does Dio Cassius think is best and why?