

Name:	Date Issued: Date Due:	Period:	Assignment: Close Read Point Value =
Instructions: Highlight or underline that the text will help you answer your Supporting and Compelling Questions. Take notes on the side and explain why the examples are important.			
Background: Close reading is thoughtful, critical analysis of a text that focuses on significant details or patterns in order to develop a deep, precise understanding of the text's form, craft, meanings, etc. It is a key requirement of the Common Core State Standards and directs the reader's attention to the text itself.			
Steps:			
1. Read the entire document.	2. Underline the Supporting Details.	3. Place a STAR by the Main Idea.	4. Summarize any notes on the right-side margin.
Things to Consider...	A: What is the author's purpose?	B: What text features were used?	C: What is the tone?

Article Title: Julius Caesar: Hero or Villain?	Notes/Vocabulary:
<p>1. Gaius Julius Caesar, who would become the first Emperor of Rome, was born on 13 July, 100 B.C.E. He was born at a chaotic time in Roman history, brought about largely by the rapid expansion of the Roman Empire. The first 20 years of Caesar's life were characterized by rivalries between the Senate and the Assembly. The electoral system in Rome was also corrupt (crooked or dishonest).</p> <p>2. When Consul Sulla returned to Rome in 83 B.C.E. after fighting abroad, he began a campaign to get rid of his enemies. Several thousand senators and other officials were murdered. Sulla then had the Senate declare him dictator for life. Caesar, now in his early twenties, had married the daughter of one of Sulla's enemies and the dictator demanded that he divorce her. Caesar, however, refused to do so. Perhaps to escape the rage of Sulla, Caesar joined the staff of Minurius Thermas, the Praetor (judge) in Bithynia (northern Turkey) in 81 B.C.E.</p> <p>3. When the death of Sulla was announced in 78, Caesar returned to Rome. For several years he sharpened his skills as a lawyer. Then, in 75, he studied under Appollonius Molon in Rhodes. On his way to Rhodes he was captured by pirates, staying with them for six weeks. While with them he told them he would return and crucify them. On his release he did exactly that.</p> <p>4. In 69 BCE he came back to Rome and became friends with Crassus, a rich and powerful former Praetor (Judge) who became incredibly wealthy by taking the property of the people that Sulla had killed. Caesar threw magnificent games for the masses, paid for by Crassus. This made Caesar hugely popular with the people. Caesar was then given his first military command and became the Governor of Gaul (present day France).</p> <p>5. Back in Rome, political violence was continuing. General Pompey was elected sole consul following the burning to the ground of the Senate building and the murder of</p>	

many of its members. Caesar saw his opportunity to take control and, knowing that he had the people behind him, he decided to try and overthrow Pompey. While Pompey had more soldiers, Caesar had the support of the people. As Caesar closed in on Rome Pompey abandoned the city. Caesar set out in pursuit, chasing him across the continent. Finally, after several engagements (battles), Pompey fled to Egypt, requesting that King Ptolemy XIII protect him. Instead the king had him beheaded.

6. Julius Caesar was now supreme ruler of the Roman Empire. A grateful nation turned Caesar into a God-like figure. The Senate, which he had enlarged from 600 to 900, to include more representation for the common people, gave him the title Pater Patriae (Father of the Country). The month of Quintilis was also renamed in his honor (July).
7. After rising to power, he set up tax reforms in the conquered provinces and imposed penalties for misconduct by provincial governors. He also canceled all the loan payments for the poor for a year, and launched a huge building program to give jobs to the poor. He allowed Italians from northern Italy as well as people from Gaul to become citizens as well as Senators. Moreover, he granted army veterans land parcels in the provinces to reward them for their service, he also gave them a bonus of 5,000 denarii, when they only made 125 denarii yearly. He also gave the poor free land.
8. Caesar's reforms did not come without a price, however. After defeating his enemies inside and outside Rome, he assumed all power in the role of dictator for life. He and he alone would shape Rome's future; he and he alone would determine its destiny. Those who supported the continuation of the Republican government saw their power vanishing. They would have no voice in government; there would be no democracy. To be sure, there had been dictators in Rome before Caesar. But they had assumed only temporary dictatorial power, not permanent power.
9. Some people in the Senate despised his absolute power and planned to get rid of him. On the 15th of March, 44 B.C.E Caesar set out for the Senate and sat in his Regal chair. Tullius Cimber approached him, grabbed Caesars toga and exposed his neck. At this signal another conspirator rushed in and tried to stab Caesar in the throat. Caesar, however, managed to fend him off. Then the other conspirators rushed in on the Emperor with knives. The rest of the Senate stood by and watched in horror. Julius Caesar was stabbed to death, receiving 23 wounds. He fell dead at the feet of Pompey's statue.