The Tragedy of Coriolanus
Act I, Scene I

Cell 1

**Quote:** “First, you know Caius Martius is chief enemy to the people.”

**Summary:** The Tragedy of Coriolanus begins with the people of Rome complaining about Caius Martius as a ruler. The Romans are starving, and they’re demanding for grain.

**Literary Device Question:** First Citizen: Before we proceed any further, hear me speak/All: Speak, speak/First Citizen: You are all resolved rather to die than to famish?/All: Resolved, resolved/First Citizen: First, you know Caius Martius is chief enemy to the people/All: We know’t, we know’t.

In the lines above, the expressions, “Speak, speak”, “Resolved, resolved”, and “We know’t, we know’t” is an example of the literary device...

a) Alliteration  

b) Oxymoron  

c) Simile  

d) Repetition

**Reading Comprehension:** What are the Romans’ demands?

**Vocabulary Question:** “Let us kill him, and we’ll have corn at our own price. Is’t a **verdict**?”

In the quote above, the word **verdict** most closely means

a) Judgment  

b) Chicken  

c) Paper  

d) Weapon

**Discussion Question:** Should the Romans kill Caius Martius before they die themselves from starvation?
Act I, Scene I
Cell 2

Quote: "Against him first: he’s a very dog to the commonalty."

Summary: The plebeians decide to get rid of Caius Martius as their ruler so they can set the price of grain, instead of accepting the price set by the Senate. They blame the famine on Caius Martius.

Literary Device Question: In the following line, when the Second Citizen makes sure the plebeians know what they’re doing and asks, “Consider you what services he has done for his country?” this line shows his...
   a) Anger  b) Deliberation  c) Misinterpretation  d) Fetish

Reading Comprehension: What is one reason why the plebeians want to get rid of Caius Martius?

Vocabulary Question: "What he cannot help in his nature, you account a vice in him. You must in no way say he is covetous.” In the quote above, the word covetous most closely means
   a) Giving  b) Apathetic  c) Satisfied  d) Greedy

Discussion Question: Why do you think the Second Citizen is defending Coriolanus?
Act I, Scene I
Cell 3

Quote: Enter Menenius Agrippa
"Worthy Menenius Agrippa; one that hath always loved the people."

Summary: As the plebeians walk towards the Capitol, they run into Menenius who is a patrician and friend of Martius. He asks them where they’re going with bats and clubs.

Reading Comprehension: Who is Menenius Agrippa?

Vocabulary Question: “They have had inkling this **fortnight** what we intend to do, which now we’ll show ‘em in deeds.”
In the quote above, the word “**fortnight**” most closely means
   a) Two Weeks  b) One Week  c) One Night  d) Two Nights

Discussion Question: How do you think Menenius will respond after hearing about the plebeians’ plan to kill Caius Martius?

G/S/P Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below the best contemporary paraphrase is: "Where go you with bats and clubs?"
   a) Are the bats going to the club?
   b) Where do bats and clubs go?
   c) Where are you going with the bats and clubs?
   d) The bats and clubs go where ever you go?
Act I, Scene I
Cell 4

Quote: “Care for us! True, indeed! They ne’er cared for us yet: suffer us to famish, and their store-houses crammed with grain;”

Summary: Menenius tries to explain to the First Citizen and the others that the patricians have their best interests at heart. The First Citizens says that the patricians don’t care for them at all; that’s why the patricians starve their people and keep all their grains locked up in a storage house. Menenius then compares the storage house to the stomach, saying that all the food first goes to the stomach, and then from there the nutrients are dispensed throughout the body. The senate supposedly stores all the food in a storage house and then later dispenses it to the city.

Literary Device Question: In the following line, when Menenius explains to the city about the patricians having the Romans’ best interest at heart and says, “There was a time when all the body’s members rebell’d against the belly, thus accused it: That only like a gulf it did remain I’ the midst o’ the body, idle and unactive, still cupboarding the viand, never bearing like labour with the rest, where other instruments did see and hear, devise, instruct, walk, feel, and mutually participate, did minister unto the appetite and affection common of the whole body”, this shows a metaphor comparing the stomach and

a) The lungs   b) The Senate
   c) The body    d) The piano

Reading Comprehension: Where does the Senate have all the grains locked up?
Vocabulary Question: “Even so most fitly as you *malign* our senators for that they are not such as you.”

In the quote above, the word “*malign*” most closely means

a) Defend  
b) Calculate  
c) Befoul  
d) Admire

Discussion Question: What do you think about Menenius’ comparison of the senate to a stomach?
Quote: “What do you think, you, the great toe of this assembly?”

Summary: As Menenius continues to argue with the plebeians, he calls the First Citizen a great toe. The First Citizen doesn’t understand why he’s a “great toe” so Menenius explains to him that he’s the lowest, basest, and poorest, but most wise of the rebellion.

Reading Comprehension: Why does Menenius call the First Citizen a great toe?

Vocabulary Question: “Thou rascal, that art worst in blood to run, lead’st first to win some vantage.”

In the quote above, the word “vantage” most closely means
a) Disadvantage  
b) Handicap

Discussion Question: Would you want to be called a toe?

G/S/P Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below the best contemporary paraphrase is: “I the great toe! Why the great toe?”

a) Why, I’m the great toe!

b) Why, a toe! A great one!

c) The great toe, why?

d) How am I a great toe?
Act I, scene I
Cell 6

Quote: “They are dissolved: hang ‘em! They said they were an-hungry;”

Summary: Caius Martius comes into the scene and argues with the plebeians, too. He calls them cowards and dogs. He also tells them that he has agreed to allow the plebeians to elect five representatives to advocate for their interests.

Literary Device Question: In the following line, when Caius Martius is speaking to the plebeians and Menenius and says, “They threw their caps as they would hang them on the horns o’ the moon, shouting their emulation,” the expression “threw their caps as they would hang them” is an example of the literary device...

a) Personification  b) Alliteration
d) Simile       d) Paradox

Reading Comprehension: How many tribunes are the plebeians allowed to elect?

Vocabulary Question: “Five tribunes to defend their vulgar wisdoms, of their own choice:”

In the quote above, the word “vulgar” most closely means

a) Sour, biting  b) Sweet, stinky
   b) Common, Rude  d) Blue, choosy

Discussion Question: Will five tribunes be enough to represent the plebeians’ concerns?
Quote: "The new is, sir, the Volsces are in arms."
Summary: As Caius Martius talks to Menenius and the plebeians, a messenger comes in and tells Martius that the Volsces, a Roman enemy, are preparing for war.

Literary Device Question: In the following line, when Martius is speaking to his men and says, "He is a lion that I am proud to hunt" this line shows his...
   a) Ambition  b) Fear  c) Misunderstanding  d) Ambivalence

Reading Comprehension: Who did the messenger say was preparing for war?

Vocabulary Question: "I'll lean upon one crutch and fight with t'other, ere stay behind this business."
In the quote above, the word "crutch" most closely means
   a) Person  b) Hand  c) Head  d) Support

Discussion Question: How do you think the war will turn out?
Act I Scene I

Cell 8

**Quote:** “for what miscarries shall be the general’s fault, though he perform to the utmost of a man and *giddy* censure will then cry out of Marcius ’O if he had borne the business!‘”

**Summary:** Sicinius and Brutus talk about how Caius Martius taunts the lower class and how he is too proud. Sicinius wonders how Martius will stand being under the control of Cominius. Brutus says that if Martius makes a mistake than Cominius will be at fault, but if things go well and they succeed, Martius will be praised.

**Reading Comprehension Question:** What will happen is Caius Martius messes up? What will happen if he succeeds?

**Vocabulary Question:** In the quote above the word *Giddy* most closely means:

a) Happy  

b) Harsh  

c) Dizzy  

d) Crazy

**Discussion Question:** Why do you think Caius Martius will get praised if they win, but if they lose he wouldn’t get blamed for it?

**Paraphrase the Quote:** “Fame, at which he aims”

a) He wants to be flamed  

b) He has too much fame  

c) He wants fame  

d) He is fame
Quote: “'They have press'd a power, but it is not known whether for east or west: the **dearth** is great;”

Summary: Aufidius, from Volscian, is about to attack Rome. He tells the senators that the Romans are prepared for his attack. The senators don’t believe that the Romans are ready. Aufidius goes to fight.

**Reading Comprehension Question:** What do the Senators believe? What does Aufidius believe?

**Vocabulary Question:** In the quote above the word **dearth** most closely means:

a) Scarce  
b) War  
c) Power  
d) Excess

**Discussion Question:** Who is going to win?

**Paraphrase the Quote:** “I speak from certainties”

a) I speak because certainty told me to  
b) I only speak because I am sure  
c) I only speak for sure  
d) I want to speak
Quote: “I had rather had eleven die nobly for their country than one **voluptuously surfeit** out of action.”

Summary: Volumnia and Virgilia, Martius’ mother and wife, are sewing. Volumnia is telling Virgilia how she raised Martius to become a great soldier and how she prefers Martius’ victory over her husband’s embrace.

**Reading Comprehension Question:** Who is the mom and who is the wife?

**Vocabulary Question:** In the quote above the phrase **voluptuously surfeit** most closely means:
   a) Sick of Overindulging in sensual pleasures
   b) Happy from Overindulging in food
   c) Dying slowly from boring lessons
   d) Dying an honorable death in battle

**Discussion Question:** Why do you think Volumnia would prefer Martius’ victory than her own husband’s embrace?

**Paraphrase the Quote:** “Madam, the Lady Valeria is come to visit you.”
   a) Madam, Lady Valeria came to visit you
   b) Madam, the lady is came to visit you
   c) The lady came around
   d) Valeria is lost
Act I Scene III
Cell 11

Quote: “Come; I would your cambric were sensible as your finger, that you might leave pricking it for pity.”

Summary: Volumnia, Valeria, and Virgilia talk about Martius and how has grown up to be like his father, which has passed away. Virgilia then tells them that she has news from the battlefield.

Literary Device: In the following line, when Valeria asks Volumnia and Virgilia many questions and says “How do you both? You are manifest house-keepers. What are you sewing here? A fine spot, in good faith. How does your little son?”, “What are you sewing here? A fine spot, in good faith” is an example of the literary device:
   a) Antipophora
   b) Metaphor
   c) Simile
   d) Carpe Diem

Reading Comprehension Question: Who is Martius like?

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above the word cambric most closely means:
   a) Cotton fabric
   b) Rocky road
   c) Dried skin
   d) Blue drapes

Discussion Question: What kind of traits do you think Martius got from his father?
Quote: “Hark you. far off! There is Aufidius; list, what work he makes amongst your cloven army.”

Summary: Marcius and Lartius goes to the gates of the Volsces and asks if Aufidius is within the gates. The senators tell them no, but even though Aufidius isn’t there, he will return soon and defeat them.

Literary Device: In the following line, where the first senator says that Aufidius is coming and he is almighty he says, “Hark you. Far off! There is Aufidius; list, what work he makes amongst your cloven army.” The way the senators rely on Aufidius is a literary device called:
   a) Argumentum ad populum
   b) Apostrophe
   c) Argumentum ad baculum
   d) Aposiopesis

Reading Comprehension Question: Which side is Martius on?

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above the word Hark most closely means:
   a) Go back
   b) Go away
   c) Come here
   d) Go there

Discussion Question: Who do you think will win?
Act I Scene IV
Cell 13

Quote: “All the contagion of the south light on you, you shames of Rome!”

Summary: The Romans get beat back to their trenches and Marcius enters mad and cursing. He tells the soldiers that they are shames of Rome for loosing.

Literary Device: In the following line, when Martius yells at the soldiers for being cowards he says, “You souls of geese, that bear the shapes of men, how have you run from slaves that apes would beat! Pluto and hell! All hurt behind; backs red, and faces pale with flight and agued fear!” the phrase, “You souls of geese,” shows the literary device:
   a) Acroama
   b) Agon
   c) Simile
   d) Metaphor

Reading Comprehension Question: What happened?

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above the word Contagion most closely means:
   a) Fire
   b) Shame
   c) Disease
   d) Tramp

Discussion Question: Would you be mad if you just lost a battle?
Quote: “Another alarum. The Volsces fly, and MARCIUS follows them to the gates”

Summary: Marcius decides to follow the Volsces (alone) back to their gates. He succeeds and goes in to the base with them. Now, Marcius is shut in.

Reading Comprehension Question: Who did Marcius follow?

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above the word Alarum most closely means:
   a) Alarm/Warning
   b) Bell
   c) Plan
   d) Group

Discussion Question: Do you think Marcius would survive alone?

Paraphrase the quote: “So, now the gates are ope: now prove good seconds:”
   a) Now the gates are closed, time to go.
   b) Now the gates are open, let’s hurry up and go in.
   c) Now the gate is broken, we can go in.
   d) Now the gate is locked, we can’t go in.
e) Act I Scene IV
Cell 15

I'm worried about him.

**Quote:** “O noble fellow! who sensibly outdares his senseless sword, and, when it bows, stands up. Thou art left, Marcius: a **carbuncle** entire, as big as thou art, were not so rich a jewel.

**Summary:** Lartius worries about his friend, Martius for going in the gates where the opponents want to defeat them.

**Reading Comprehension Question:** Who does Lartius worry about?

**Paraphrase the Quote:** “A carbuncle entire, as big as thou art, Were not so rich a jewel.”

a) A carbon and an ankle as a whole and very big, even than the riches jewel.
b) A terrible suffering, so much that a precious treasure cannot be compared.
c) A jewel is the same as his suffering.
d) He deserves a jewel, so rich to even out his suffering.

**Vocabulary Question:** In the quote above, the word **carbuncle** most nearly mean

a. Tremendous pain
b. Replenishing beverage
c. Automobile buckle
d. Recycling trash

**Discussion Question:** Do you worry about your friends when they are in danger?
Quote: “Convenient numbers to make good the city; whilst I, with those that have the spirit, will **haste** to help Cominius.”

Summary: Lartius is overjoyed knowing his friend is safe and they talk about winning the war. Martius is going to help Cominius, a war general, win the battles in the region.

**Reading Comprehension Question:** What is Martius going to do?

**Literary Device Question:** In the line, when Marcius says “Sir, praise me not; My work hath yet not warm'd me:”, shows his:

a. Boastfulness  
b. Cautiousness  
c. Pitiless  
d. Hibernation  

**Discussion Question:** If you were Lartius, would you let Martius go into another battle after he was terribly injured?

**Vocabulary Question:** In the quote above, the word **haste** most nearly mean

a. taste  
b. roast  
c. burst  
d. fast
Scene VI
Cell 17

We lost, but tomorrow is another day.

Quote: "While we have struck, by interims and conveying gusts we have heard the charges of our friends. Ye Roman gods!
Summary: Cominius tells his army that tomorrow is another day and that they fought bravely.
Reading Comprehension Question: What did Cominius tell his army?
Vocabulary Question: In the quote above the word gusts most nearly mean?
  a. raising sunshine
  b. autumn and spring
  c. rush of winds
  d. thunder and lightning
Discussion Question: Is it easy to give someone an advice to give them hope?
Literary Device: "Ye Roman gods!" Is an example of the literary device:
  a. stanza
  b. euphony
  c. cacophony
  d. allegory
Scene VII
Cell 18

Quote: “So, let the ports be guarded: keep your duties, As I have set them down.”

Summary: Lartius orders the Lieutenant to secure their boundaries and do their job.

Reading Comprehension Question: What does Lartious order the lieutenant to do?

Discussion Question: Do you think they are going to secure it accurately enough?

Paraphrase the Quote: “Fear not our care, sir”
   a. never fear, superman
   b. don’t worry, we’ll fulfill our duty.
   c. Never fear, we don’t care
   d. Don’t care if you fear

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above, the word **ports** nearly mean
   a. fork
   b. fort
   c. pots
   d. plate
Scene VIII
Cell 19

I hate you

Quote: “Wert thou the Hector that was the whip of your bragg'd progeny, thou shouldst not scape me here.”

Summary: Marcius and Aufidus are mortal enemies. They finally meet to say their hatred for one another. Marcius was bragging that he is great and more powerful than Aufidius.

Reading Comprehension Question: Who are mortal enemies?

Discussion Question: Do you say horrible things to your mortal enemy?

Literary Device Question: “Wert thou the Hector” Is an example of the literary device:
   a. cacophony
   b. euphony
   c. alliteration
   d. metaphor

Vocabulary Question: In the quote above, the word progeny most nearly mean
   a. property
   b. piracy
   c. descendants
   d. rodents
Cell: 1 Act: 2 Scene: 1

Quote:
Brutus: He’s poor in no one fault, but stored with all.
Sicinius: Especially in pride.
Brutus: And topping all others in boasting.

Summary:
The tribunes gather to talk about Marcius. Brutus and Sicinius start to talk poorly about him saying that his pride makes him an enemy to the people. They go on to compare Marcius to a lamb that will get devoured by the public because of the public’s dislike of Marcius.

Reading Comprehension:
Who are Brutus and Sicinius criticizing?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above, boasting most closely means
a. Bragging*
b. laughing
c. insulting
d. brandishing

Discussion Question:
What do you think is the reason that Brutus and Sicinius have decided to dislike Marcius?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase: “The augurer tells me we shall have news tonight”.
   a. The news tells me the fortune teller will tonight.
   b. The fortune teller tells me we will have news tonight.*
   c. Tonight the fortune teller’s news will say.
   d. News will tonight the fortune teller say.
MENENIUS: Why, 'tis no great matter; for a very little thief of occasion will rob you of a great deal of patience: give your dispositions the reins, and be angry at your pleasures; at the least, if you take it as a pleasure to you in being so. You blame Marcius for being proud?

BRUTUS: We do it not alone, sir.

MENENIUS: I know you can do very little alone; for your helps are many, or else your actions would grow wondrous single: your abilities are too infant-like for doing much alone. You talk of pride: O that you could turn your eyes toward the napes of your necks, and make but an interior survey of your good selves! O that you could!

Summary:
Menenius, tired of Sicinius and Brutus' gossiping about Marcius, tells the two tribunes to stop criticizing the leader to be and look to their own faults.

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Menenius says "Why, 'tis no great matter, for a very little thief of occasion will rob you of a great deal of
"patience", the expression "'tis no great matter" is an example of the literary device
   a. alliteration
   b. hyperbole
   c. understatement*
   d. oxymoron

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above, nape most closely means
   a. beneath someone’s toe
   b. under someone’s armpit
   c. in the back of someone’s neck*
   d. inside someone’s chest

Discussion Question:
Do you think it is right for Meninius to try to defend Marcius?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase: "O that/you could turn your eyes toward the napes of your necks, and make/but an interior survey of your good selves!"
   a. You can never look at the yourself, but you need to look at good yourself.
   b. People always look at yourself, but weaknesses need to start good.
   c. Always start to look at yourself, but you need to look at weaknesses in people.
   d. You always seem to look at weaknesses in people, but you really need to take a close look at yourselves.*
SICINIUS: Menenius, you are known well enough too.

MENENIUS: I am known to be a humorous patrician, and one that loves a cup of hot wine with not a drop of allaying Tiber in’t; said to be something imperfect in favouring the first complaint, hasty and tinder-like upon too trivial motion; one that converses more with the buttock of the night than with the forehead of the morning. What I think I utter, and spend my malice in my breath. Meeting two such wealsmen as you are,—I cannot call you Lycurguses,—if the drink you give me touch my palate adversely, I make a crooked face at it. I cannot say your worships have delivered the matter well when I find the ass in compound with the major part of your syllables; and though I must be content to bear with those that say you are reverend grave men, yet they lie deadly that tell you have good faces. If you see this in the map of my microcosm, follows it that I am known well enough too? What harm can your bisson conspectuities glean out of this character, if I be known well enough too?

BRUTUS: Come, sir, come, we know you well enough.

Summary:
As Brutus and Sicinius start to criticize Menenius by mere hints at him, Menenius gets put into long speeches in which he describes his own character to defend himself. Brutus and Sicinius throw many one liners out there to pull Menenius into more drawn out speeches. After Brutus and Sicinius have had their fill of taunting, they exit.

Reading Comprehension Question:
Who is Menenius now defending?

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Brutus says “Come, sir, come, we know you well enough.”, his use of the word “come” is an example of
   a. alliteration
   b. oxymoron
   c. repetition*
   d. hyperbole

Discussion Question:
Do you think Menenius is doing a good job of defending himself? Why or why not?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase: “Menenius, you are known well enough too.”
   a. Everyone knows you Menenius.*
   b. Menenius knows everyone.
   c. Knows you Menenius everyone.
   d. Everyone knows you Menenius?
Quote:
“O, he is wounded, I thank the gods for’t.”
-Volumna

Summary:
Volumna, Virgilia, and Valeria arrive with news about Martius’ victory. Volumna is extremely proud of the valor her son had and the wounds he received. After this good news, Meninius gives thanks that his side won the war and that his friend is safe.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What is almost everyone happy about?

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Volumna says “O, no, no, no”, her use of the word “no” is an example of
a. Oxymoron, moron
b. repetition, anaphora, amplification*
c. allusion, illusion, tristification
d. alliteration, alligatism

Vocabulary Question:
“Has he disciplined Aufidius soundly?”
-Meninius
In the quote above, disciplined most closely means
a. punished*
b. rewarded
c. danced
d. lighted

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase: “He comes the third time home with the oaken garland.” –Volumna
a. Third time he is returning from victory.
b. Garlands are victory for the third time for him.
c. This is the third time he is coming home with a victory.*
d. Coming victory of the third time he is.
Quote:
“Know, Rome, that all alone Marcius did fight
Within Corioli gates: where he hath won,
With fame, a name to Caius Marcius; these
In honour follows Coriolanus:—
Welcome to Rome, renowned Coriolanus!”
-Herald

Summary:
The topic on everyone’s mouths finally comes to town. Everyone
freaks out and follows Coriolanus to some pressing business at the
senate, leaving Brutus and Sicinius to go about their gossiping ways.

Reading Comprehension Question:
Who comes to town?

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Coriolanus says “No more of this, it does
offend my heart,” the word “heart” is an example of a(n)
  a. simile
  b. oxymoron
  c. metaphor*
d. allusion

Vocabulary Question:
“You have, I know, petition'd all the gods”
-Coriolanus
In the quote above, petition most closely means
a. requested
b. threatened
c. disgraced
d. energized

Discussion Question:
What do you think Coriolanus is going to do at the senate?
“Doubt not the commoners, for whom we stand,  
But they, upon their ancient malice will forget,  
With the least cause these his new honours; which  
That he will give them make as little question  
As he is proud to do't.”  
-Sicinius

Summary:  
The pair of trouble brewing tribunes are worried about Coriolanus’ rise to power, but then they remind themselves about how he is with the common people. This reminds them that he needs the plebian vote to become consul and he probably won’t get it.
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Tullus Aufidius then had made new head?
LARTIUS
He had, my lord; and that it was which caused
Our swifter composition.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus, Lartius, and Cominius are talking about Tullus Aufidius. They are speaking happily, about how Coriolanus has defeated Aufidius' town. Coriolanus thinks that they might possibly attack again but Cominius assures him that they're too worn out.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Who is talking about Tullus Aufidius?

VOCABULARY:
“Tullus Aufidius then had made new head?”
In the quote above the word head most closely means
i) progress
ii) skull
iii) cranium
iv) start

Grammar: "They are worn, lord consul, so, that we shall hardly in our age see their banners wave again."
A. They are tired, councilmen, so in our lifetime we will never see them rise again.
B. The people are being worn as clothing and they are out of style.
C. They are hopeless, lord counsel, and we are too old.
D. The people are tired of waving banners all day long.
DISCUSSION: Why does Coriolanus meet with the senators? What do you think they will discuss?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Spoke he of me?
LARTIUS
He did, my lord.
CORIOLANUS
How? what?

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus asks Lartius if Aufidius had said anything about him (Coriolanus) and Lartius says yes. He tells Coriolanus that Aufidius said that when he came face to face with Coriolanus, he wanted to kill him so he can be called a 'vanquisher.'

READING COMPREHENSION: What does Coriolanus want to know?

VOCABULARY:
"that he would pawn his fortunes
To hopeless restitution,"
In the quote above the word restitution most closely means
i) prostitution
ii) compensation
iii) reward
iv) payment
Grammar: "That of all things upon the earth he hated your person most, that he would pawn his fortunes to hopeless restitution, so he might be call’d your vanquisher."
A. He hates you so much that he wants to sit down and have a strongly worded conversation.
B. He hates you so much that he would give away all of his fortune just to be able to be called you murderer.
C. He thinks you are the best person in the world. He hopes that you will never die.
D. He hates the earth so much he wants to blow it up and laugh at everybody.

DISCUSSION: Do you think Coriolanus is a war hero?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Pass no further.
CORIOLANUS
Ha! what is that?
BRUTUS
It will be dangerous to go on: no further.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus says that he wishes he could find an excuse to go to
Aufidius and fight with him, to come face to face with his anger. At
the same time Sicinius and Brutus come to him and tell him to stop.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus want to do?

VOCABULARY:
“For they do prank them in authority,
   Against all noble sufferance.”
In the quote above the word prank most closely means
   i) mischeviously trick
   ii) joke
   iii) cause problems among
   iv) annoy

Grammar: "I wish I had a cause to seek him there, to oppose his hatred
fully"
A. I wish I had a reason to find him and fight him.
B. I wish I wasn’t such a coward and I had the guts to face him like a
man.
C. I wish he smaller than me so I could beat him up.
D. Don’t you wish I hated him?

DISCUSSION: Who is a better person, Sicinius or Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
COMINIUS
Hath he not pass'd the noble and the common?
BRUTUS
Cominius, no.
CORIOLANUS
Have I had children's voices?

SUMMARY:
Brutus and Sicinius tell Coriolanus that everything is not all right and that the people have changed their minds about choosing him as consul.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What do Brutus and Sicinius tell Coriolanus?

VOCABULARY:
"The people are incensed against him."
In the quote above the word incensed most closely means
   i) sexual abused
   ii) smelling good aromas
   iii) slimly placated
   iv) angrily exasperated

Grammar: "Tribunes, give way, he shall to the market-place.
A. Tribunes, give me you hand and we shall skip to the market place.
B. Tribunes, stop me from going to where the crowd is.
C. I pay a tribute to the market-place
D. Tribunes, watch out, he will go to the market-place

DISCUSSION: How do you think the tribunes will reach a verdict with the crowd?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Are these your herd?
Must these have voices, that can yield them now
And straight disclaim their tongues? What are your offices?

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus gets angry and starts saying the Sicinius and Brutus are making all the decisions for the people. As Menenius tries to calm Coriolanus, Brutus says that the people are saying that Coriolanus has tricked them.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What are the people saying, according to Brutus?

VOCABULARY:
“When corn was given them gratis, you repined”
In the quote above the word gratis most closely means
   i) without asking compensation
   ii) nicely
   iii) annoyingly
   iv) discourteously

Grammar: "Are these your herd?
A. Did you hear what I herd?"
B. When I fell, I herd my self.
C. Do those moronic people follow you?
D. Let’s go to the herd.

DISCUSSION: If you were Coriolanus, would you be angry?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Why, this was known before.
BRUTUS
Not to them all.
CORIOLANUS
Have you inform'd them sithence?

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus asks Brutus how they have gotten to this conclusion. He says that Brutus has put all these ideas into their heads, so it's his fault. He said he hasn't said anything wrong in his speech and he will gladly say everything again.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What has Brutus done?

VOCABULARY:
"Have you inform'd them sithence?"
In the quote above the word sithence most closely means
i) presently
ii) since
iii) previously
iv) beforehand
Grammar: "Why, this was know before."
A. They had already known this before.
B. They had already known this before.
C. Did you know what happened before?
D. Who would know what was going to happen before this happened but after that happened?

DISCUSSION: Do you think that Brutus should condemn Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Why then should I be consul? By yond clouds,
Let me deserve so ill as you, and make me
Your fellow tribune.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus says that if he is really as bad as they say he is then he
should be a tribune (like Sicinius) because they are nothing better
than that. Sicinius tells Coriolanus that he will never be as good as
a real consul.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius say to Coriolanus?

VOCABULARY:
"Why then should I be consul? By yond clouds,"
In the quote above the word yond most closely means
i) that
ii) them
iii) yonder
iv) white

Grammar: "You show too much of that for which the people stir:
A. You are putting on a good show for the people to watch."
B. The people want to put on a show for you.
C. The way you are acting is why the people are revolting.
D. Why should I show you what I have?

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus be consul?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Now, as I live, I will. My nobler friends,
I crave their pardons:
For the mutable, rank-scented many, let them
Regard me as I do not flatter,

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus starts to say his speech from the beginning, but the First Senator and Menenius tell him to stop. Coriolanus says he will say it over and over again until his lungs decay.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus say he will do?

VOCABULARY:
“The cockle of rebellion, insolence, sedition,”
In the quote above the word cockle most closely means
i) a bivalve mollusk
ii) a weed that grows among corn
iii) a pucker
iv) annoyance

Grammar: "Now, as I live, I will. My nobler friends, I crave their pardon:"
A. Since I am alive, my good friends, I want them to forgive me.
B. My nobler friends, don’t forgive anyone for my actions.
C. You are terrible friends, you should not be pardoned
D. I am noble, you are not.

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus be angry, would you?
QUOTE:
BRUTUS
You speak o' the people,
As if you were a god to punish, not
A man of their infirmity.

SUMMARY:
Brutus says that Coriolanus thinks he is a God and can do anything he
wants but he really isn't. Sicinius says that Coriolanus has a mind
that is a poison and the people must know about it.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Brutus say Coriolanus thinks he is?

VOCABULARY:
"A man of their infirmity."
In the quote above the word *infirmity* most closely means
  i) weakness
  ii) frailty
  iii) disease
  iv) sickness

Grammar: "You speak o' the people, as if you were a god to punish, not
a man of their infirmity."
A. You are my god, punish the people as you see fit.
B. Don't ever punish any one except if they are a god.
C. You speak of the people because you are a god. 
D. You talk about the people like you were better than them, even though you are the same.

DISCUSSION: Do you like poor people?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
'Shall'!
O good but most unwise patricians! why,
You grave but reckless senators, have you thus
Given Hydra here to choose an officer,

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus calls the Tribunes plebeians. He says that if they are
going to use the plebeians as their voice then that is what they are.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus call the Tribunes?

VOCABULARY:
"That with his peremptory 'shall,'"
In the quote above the word peremptory most closely means
  i) earlier mentioned
  ii) unconditional
  iii) formerly mentioned
  iv) latterly mentioned

Grammar: "O good but most unwise patricians!"
A. You are good but stupid patricians!
B. You a terrible but smart patricians!
C. O patricians who are very smart!
D. Give me advice good but unwise patricians!

DISCUSSION: According to this monologue, would you agree with Coriolanus’ opinion?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Whoever gave that Counsel, to give forth
The corn o' the stonehouse gratis, as twas used
Sometime in Greece - -

SUMMARY:
Cominius tries to make everyone continue to go to the market place, but
Coriolanus continues to speak and say whatever comes out of his mouth
without thinking. Menenius tries to stop their argument.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Coriolanus doing?

VOCABULARY:
"Whoever gave that counsel, to give forth"
In the quote above the word counsel most closely means
i) act of exchanging opinion
ii) plan of action
iii) guidance
iv) sovereign

Grammar: "I say, they nourish'd disobedience, fed the ruin of the state."
A. I say we need to fight back against the rebellion.
B. I think they gave the disobedient what they needed and therefore cause the destruction of our country.
C. The best thing to do, I think, is to not feed anyone.
D. You said you wanted to get something to eat?

DISCUSSION: Should the mob dictate Coriolanus’ fate?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
I'll give my reasons,
More worthier than their voices. They know the corn
Was not our recompense, resting well assured
That ne'er did service for't: being press'd to the war,
Even when the navel of the state was touch'd,
They would not thread the gates.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus gives a long speech saying that his opinions are much
worthier than their (tribune’s) voices.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is more worthier?

VOCABULARY:
"Their mutinies and revolts, wherein they show'd
Most valour, spoke not for them:"
In the quote above the word mutinies most closely means
i) meetings
ii) strifes
iii) assembly
iv) uprisings
Grammar: "I’ll give my reasons, more worthier than their voices."
A. I’ll give you a reason just so you will leave me alone.
B. My voice is very worthy so listen to my excuse.
C. I don’t have time to give reasons how get away from me.
D. I’ll tell you my reasons and it will mean more than what they have to say.

DISCUSSION: Are Coriolanus’ reasons justifiable? If so, why?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
No, take more:
What may be sworn by, both divine and human,
Seal what I end withal! This double worship,
Where one part does disdain with cause, the other
Insult without all reason, where gentry, title, wisdom,
Cannot conclude but by the yea and no
Of general ignorance,--

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus continues to heap scorn upon the common people, their
tribunes, and their supposed tyranny over the elite and leaders

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus mean by “Cannot conclude but by the yea and no/Of
general ignorance”?

VOCABULARY:
"The multitudinous tongue; let them not lick
The sweet which is their poison:"
In the quote above the word multitudinous most closely means
i) people’s
ii) loud
iii) multifaceted
iv) earsplitting
Grammar: "I must omit real necessities, and give way the while to unstable slightness:
A. I must leave out the things needed most, which will lead to unstable times.
B. I must give you the real necessities, which will lead you to be unstable.
C. You need to be unstable to get the necessities.
D. Food is not a necessity to live, you will be fine if you don’t eat for a while.

DISCUSSION: Why does Coriolanus’ hate the poor?
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QUOTE:
BRUTUS
Has said enough.
SICINIUS
Has spoken like a traitor, and shall answer
As traitors do.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus continues to insult the tribunes, to the point where Brutus says that's enough. Sicinius calls Coriolanus a traitor and says that he is no consul.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius say Coriolanus is?

VOCABULARY:
"The aediles, ho!
Enter an AEdile
Let him be apprehended.
In the quote above the word aedile most closely means
i) guard
ii) elected official
iii) sentinel
iv) lookout
Grammar: "On whom Depending, their obedience fails To the greater bench: in a rebellion,"
A. They are very loyal people.
B. I wish I was as loyal as the tribunes are to me.
C. During a rebellion, they chose the side of whomever is winning.
D. In a rebellion, they are the only ones you can trust.

DISCUSSION: Is Sicinius a voice of the people?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Hence, old goat!
Senators, & C We'll surety him.
COMINIUS
Aged sir, hands off.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius tells someone to go call the people. Coriolanus calls him an old goat because he called him a traitor and they start to fight physically.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Why does Coriolanus call Sicinius an old goat?

VOCABULARY:
"A foe to the public weal: obey, I charge thee,"
In the quote above the word weal most closely means
i) scar
ii) mark
iii) general good
iv) blemish
Grammar: "in whose name myself attach thee as a traitorous innovator, A foe to the public weal: obey, I charge thee,"
A. I am accusing you of being a traitor, and an enemy to the public.
B. You are a traitor but a friend to the public weal.
C. Let's all be traitors together and cause chaos.
D. That innovator that called me a traitor was not very nice.

DISCUSSION: Who is better for the country, this tribune, or Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Here's he that would take from you all your power.
BRUTUS
Seize him, AEdiles!
Citizens
Down with him! down with him!
Senators, & C Weapons, weapons, weapons!

SUMMARY:
As soon as the people arrive, Sicinius tells them that Coriolanus is a traitor; one that would end up taking away all their power. Everyone starts screaming 'seize him' but Menenius makes everyone stop and give the tribunes another chance to talk.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius say Coriolanus will do to his people?

VOCABULARY:
"A foe to the public weal: obey, I charge thee,"
In the quote above the word weal most closely means
i) scar
ii) mark
iii) general good
iv) blemish

Grammar: "Here's he that would take from you all your power."
A. This man wants nothing of you.
B. This is the guy that wants to take all of your power.
C. You should give all of you power to this man for no reason at all.
D. He is very smart and therefore all powerful

DISCUSSION: Do any modern day politicians get mobbed? Or war heros?
QUOTE:
Citizens
Let's hear our tribune: peace Speak, speak, speak.
SICINIUS
You are at point to lose your liberties:
Marcius would have all from you; Marcius,
Whom late you have named for consul.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius says that since the people have named Coriolanus consul, they are about to lose all their powers. Sicinius also says that the people make the city, not the consul, and what the people say goes. The crowd agrees.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius say to warn the crowd?

VOCABULARY:
"Fie, fie, fie!"
This is the way to kindle, not to quench."
In the quote above the word fie most closely means
i) exclamation of contempt
ii) exclamation of happiness
iii) exclamation of love
iv) exclamation of sadness
Grammar: "Fie, fie, fie! This is the way to kindle, not quench."
A. Stop, you are making the situation worse, not better.
B. Continue to do what you are doing.
C. This man wants to know how to start a fire. Will you teach him?
D. Let’s all go to the city and have a party.

DISCUSSION: Would you speak to the masses like the senators?
QUOTE:
BRUTUS
By the consent of all, we were establish'd
The people's magistrates.
Citizens
You so remain.

SUMMARY:
Brutus and Sicinius decide that Coriolanus deserves to die. Cominius says that doing this will bring the city to its knees. It would be the same if they destroyed the whole city.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Brutus' and Sicinius' final decision?

VOCABULARY:
"By the consent of all, we were establish'd
The people's magistrates."
In the quote above the word magistrates most closely means
i) king-appointed officer
ii) civil officer
iii) self-appointed officer
iv) ugly officer

Grammar: "By the consent of all, we were establish'd"
A. Do we have your consent to do what ever we want?
B. By your consent, we can kill any one we want.
C. By you permission, we were given the right to have fun,
D. By the people’s choice, we were elected.

DISCUSSION: Does Coriolanus deserve to die?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Therefore lay hold of him;
Bear him to the rock Tarpeian, and from thence
Into destruction cast him.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius, Brutus, and the citizens decide how to kill Coriolanus, but
Menenius asks for a moment so he can speak. He tells Brutus that if he
is truly the city's friend, then he might reconsider.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How does Menenius try to prevent Coriolanus' death?

VOCABULARY:
"Hear me one word;
Beseech you, tribunes, hear me but a word."
In the quote above the word beseech most closely means
i) ask
ii) inquire
iii) beg
iv) request

Grammar: "Therefore lay hold of him; Bear him to the rock Tyarpeian."
A. Because of that grab him and tie him to the Tyarpeian rock.
B. Lay hold of him and burn him on a stake.
C. Everyone grab him and we will throw him into the ocean.
D. Let's make friends with him so he doesn't get mad at us.

DISCUSSION: Would you stand up and support your ally, like Menenius?
QUOTE:
BRUTUS
Sir, those cold ways,
That seem like prudent helps, are very poisonous
Where the disease is violent. Lay hands upon him,
And bear him to the rock.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus takes out his sword and tells the people that they have seen
him fight once and if anyone dares, let them come to fight with him
now, because if he is going to die, it will be here.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus say about his death?

VOCABULARY:
"Sir, those cold ways,
    That seem like prudent helps, are very poisonous"
In the quote above the word prudent most closely means
i) important
ii) vital
iii) imperative
iv) wise
Grammar: "There’s some among you have beheld me fighting: Come try upon yourselves what you have seen me.
A. If you want to kill me you must throw rocks at me.
B. Some of you have seen me fight before so now is your chance to try and beat what you have seen
C. I like you all and I don’t want to hurt you.
D. Can’t we all just get along?

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus fight?
QUOTE:
Second Senator
Get you gone.
COMINIUS
Stand fast; We have as many friends as enemies.

SUMMARY:
The first senator says that everyone should go home and he will settle this calmly and rationally, but Cominius says that they have equal amount of friends as enemies so they should fight.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does the First Senator suggest?

VOCABULARY:
"Stand fast; We have as many friends as enemies"
In the quote above the word stand fast most closely means
i) to refuse to abandon one’s opinion
ii) to refuse to move from a standing spot
iii) to refuse to speak
iv) to refuse to wake
Grammar: "I prithee, noble friends, home to thy house; Leave us to cure this cause."
A. I beg you friends, go home to your houses. Let us take care of this problem.
B. I prithee, bad friends, get out of here before I kill you.
C. Don't worry about a thing, we can all go home now.
D. We can cure this, everyone must stay and help.

DISCUSSION: Do the Gods' favor lie on Coriolanus or Sicinius?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
I would they were barbarians--as they are,
Though in Rome litter'd--not Romans--as they are not,
Though calved i' the porch o' the Capitol--

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus says that nobody is Roman here, instead, they are all barbarians. Menenius tells him not to speak so much, because he will regret some words later one. Coriolanus, being brave, says that he can beat forty men right now.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus say about all the people there?

VOCABULARY:
"Though in Rome litter'd--not Romans--as they are not,
Though calved i' the porch o' the Capitol--"
In the quote above the word calved most closely means
i) to give birth to a calf
ii) to steal a part of something
iii) to break of a piece of an iceberg
iv) to set loose
Grammar: "Be gone; Put not your worthy rage into your tongue;
A. Get out of here, and don’t say anything bad about them.
B. Leave this place but you can say what you want.
C. Don’t say anything, but you can stay if you want.
D. Everyone, let’s go down and leave this man alone.

DISCUSSION: Would Coriolanus stand a chance against the mob?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
Pray you, be gone:
I'll try whether my old wit be in request
With those that have but little: this must be patch'd
With cloth of any colour.

SUMMARY:
Menenius begs for Coriolanus to leave and Cominius leaves along with Coriolanus. Menenius tells the Patrician that Coriolanus' heart is his mouth and that he says whatever he is thinking no matter what.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Which two people leave and why?

VOCABULARY:
"His nature is too noble for the world:
  He would not flatter Neptune for his trident,"
In the quote above the word trident most closely means
i) fleet
ii) lively way of life
iii) three-pronged spear
iv) quick pace
Grammar: "This man has marr’d his fortune"
A. This guy has improved his fortune.
B. He wants to go to a fortune teller.
C. He has made everyone’s fortune better.
D. This man has messed up his fortune.

DISCUSSION: Was it a good idea for Coriolanus to leave the scene of action?
QUOTE:
Second Patrician
I would they were abed!
MENENIUS
I would they were in Tiber! What the vengeance!
Could he not speak 'em fair?

SUMMARY:

READING COMPREHANSION:

VOCABULARY:
"I would they were abed!"
In the quote above the word abed most closely means
  i) to be lying next to a bed
  ii) to be standing in bed
  iii) to be near a bed
  iv) to be in bed

Grammar: "Where is this viper that would depopulate the city and be
every man himself."
A. Where is this bad man that would kill every one in the city and
   would be the only one left.
B. Where is this wonderful, snake like man who wants to lower the
C. This viper is a snake that could kill every one in Rome.
D. I am afraid of this many because he might kill me so we better find him.

DISCUSSION: Why do the tribunes hate Coriolanus so much?
QUOTE:
Citizens
He shall, sure on't.
MENENIUS
Sir, sir,--
SICINIUS
Peace!

SUMMARY:
Sicinius asks Menenius why he worked so hard to rescue Coriolanus. Menenius replied that along with all his faults, Coriolanus has many good traits too.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Why did Menenius rescue Coriolanus?

VOCABULARY:
"Do not cry havoc, where you should but hunt
With modest warrant."
In the quote above the word havoc most closely means
  i) chaos
  ii) order
  iii) anger
  iv) sadness
Grammar: "Do not cry havoc, where you should but hunt with modest warrant."
A. Don’t cry for joy, we haven’t found him yet.
B. Don’t go crazy, we will find him with little trouble.
C. Cry for him in you havoc voice.
D. We will never find so lets all cry.

DISCUSSION: If you were in Sicinius’ position, how would you punish Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Consul! what consul?
MENENIUS
The consul Coriolanus.
BRUTUS
He consul!

SUMMARY:
Menenius asks if he can speak to the people for one moment. If they
don't agree with his speech, then there's nothing to loose. Sicinius
tells him to be quick about it.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What will happen if the people don't want to agree to Menenius' speech?

VOCABULARY:
"Speak briefly then;
For we are peremptory to dispatch"
In the quote above the word dispatch most closely means
i) dismiss
ii) dispose of something
iii) say goodbye
iv) be speedy in performance

Grammar: "If, by the tribunes' leave, and yours, good people, I may be
heard, I would crave a word or two;"
A. I want to say something no matter what you say.
B. Don’t let any one speak, not even a word.
C. If the tribunes and the good people of this city would let me, I would like to say a few words.
D. I wants to give an entire boring speech, but don’t kill me.

DISCUSSION: Should the poor have a say in politics?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
Now the good gods forbid
That our renowned Rome, whose gratitude
Towards her deserved children is enroll'd
In Jove's own book, like an unnatural dam
Should now eat up her own!

SUMMARY:
Sicinius says that Coriolanus is a disease that must be cut away.
Menenius corrects him in saying that he is not a disease, he's a limb that has the disease. He also says that Coriolanus hasn't done anything to deserve death; he has fought for his country.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How does Menenius change Sicinius' words to make it fit his point?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word vouch most closely means:
A. Affirm
B. Recite
C. Jog
D. Write

Grammar: "O, he's a limb that has but a disease; Mortal, to cut it off;
to cure it, easy.
A. He is like a limb that has a disease, in order to survive, we must cut that limb off.
B. He has an extra arm that we need to cut off.
C. He is like a limb that needs to be reconnected.
D. He has many diseases so let’s kill him before he get them.

DISCUSSION: Is Coriolanus still a war hero?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
The service of the foot
Being once gangrened, is not then respected
For what before it was.

SUMMARY:
Menenius compares Coriolanus' situation to a foot. He says that once a foot has gangrene, it doesn't get the respect it did before even though it is not the foot's fault. Now that Coriolanus has made one mistake, nobody wants him alive, forgetting all he has done for his country.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How does Menenius compare gangrene to Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word gangrene most closely means:
A. Infection
B. Color
C. Hat
D. Poem

Grammar: "The service of the foot being once gangrened, is not then respected for what before it was."
A. A foot now infected with gangrene is not respected for what is was before it was infected.
b. He has gangrene in his foot so we must cut it off soon.
C. A foot is a very important thing that cannot be sacrificed.
D. If you have gangrene in you foot, people lose respect for you.

DISCUSSION: Do the tribunes want power?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
Consider this: he has been bred i' the wars
Since he could draw a sword, and is ill school'd
In bolted language; meal and bran together
He throws without distinction.

SUMMARY:
Menenius asks if he can go and talk to Coriolanus and bring him out to speak without fighting. The First Senator agrees that this is the best way to solve the problem. Sicinius gives him permission to do what he wishes.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Menenius' plan to solve everybody's problem?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word humane most closely means:
A. Strong
B. Merciful
C. Drastic
D. Practical

Grammar: "It is the humane way: the other course will prove too bloody, and the end of it unknown to the beginning"
A. We should try to do it the bloodiest way possible.
B. We now know the end result so therefore we must not proceed.
C. This is the most humane way: the other ways are too bloody and we
don't know what will happen.
D. I don't know what is happening but lets got and get bloody.

DISCUSSION: How do the senators contribute to this scene?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Meet on the market-place. We'll attend you there:
Where, if you bring not Marcius, we'll proceed
In our first way.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius tells Menenius that he must bring Coriolanus to the Market
place, but if he doesn't, then they will continue to do what they
wanted in the first place. Menenius assures them that he will bring
Coriolanus to them and they all leave.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Menenius' master plan?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word proceed most closely means:
A. Stop
B. Desist
C. Continue
D. Quit

Grammar: "Let me desire your company: he must come,"
A. Let me come with you, he must come.
B. I desire you and he will come.
C. You company he desires and therefore he will come to find us.
D. Let him come.

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus show? Will he?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Let them puff all about mine ears, present me
Death on the wheel or at wild horses' heels,
Or pile ten hills on the Tarpeian rock,
That the precipitation might down stretch
Below the beam of sight, yet will I still
Be thus to them.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus says that if they want to kill him, they can use any method
they want, from rolling on a wheel, to the Tarpeian rock. He says that
his mother, Volumnia, is disappointed with him.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus think about his death?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word precipitation most closely
means:
A. Yelling
B. Acceleration
C. Condensation
D. Representation

Grammar: "Let them puff all about mine ears,"
A. Let them take my ears from me.
B. Let's go eat some cow ears.
C. Let them talk about me as much as they want.
D. Let them puff up my ears with smoke.

DISCUSSION: Would you listen to your mother in this situation?
QUOTE:
VOLUMNIA
You might have been enough the man you are,
With striving less to be so; lesser had been
The thwartings of your dispositions, if
You had not show'd them how ye were disposed
Ere they lack'id power to cross you.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus is still mad at all of them, but Menenius tells him that he
must go back and speak calmly. The First Senator tries to convince him
that if he doesn't the whole city will be destroyed.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How are they trying to convince Coriolanus to go back to the market
place?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Cleave most closely means:
A. Split
B. Wreck
C. Fix
D. Throw

Grammar: "You might have been enough the man you are."
A. You are not a man.
B. You did not show how much of a man you are.
C. Do you know where I can find a mighty man?
D. Man, I have had enough.

DISCUSSION: Will Rome fall without Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
VOLUMNIA
Pray, be counsell'd:
I have a heart as little apt as yours,
But yet a brain that leads my use of anger
To better vantage.

SUMMARY:
Volumnia tells her son that she understands his anger, but her must
learn to control it. Coriolanus asks what he is supposed to do now.
Menenius says he must go back and take everything he said back.
Coriolanus disagrees.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Menenius say Coriolanus has to do?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word scarcely most closely means:
A. Completely
B. Hardly
C. Quickly
D. Efficiently

Grammar: "But yet a brain that leads my use of anger to better
vantage."
A. By brain hurts from my anger.
B. My brain allows me to use my anger to my advantage.
C. Don't try to take advantage of my brain.
D. My brain might try to take advantage of you.

DISCUSSION: Do you see a hint of the Oedipal complex in Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
VOLUMNIA
You are too absolute;
Though therein you can never be too noble,
But when extremities speak. I have heard you say,
Honour and policy, like unsever'd friends,
I' the war do grow together:

SUMMARY:
Volumnia tells her son he mustn't be so arrogant. He must go and do what's best for the city, even if it means to admit he is wrong.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Volumnia telling her son to do?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word extremities most closely means:
A. Clothing
B. Housing
C. End
D. Plastic

Grammar: "Though therein you can never be too noble,"
A. You can never be too noble.
B. You are noble only if you are too noble
C. Noble is something you can't be.
D. The noble's of Rome are not very noble.
DISCUSSION: Is he really noble?
QUOTE:
VOLUMNIA
Because that now it lies you on to speak
To the people; not by your own instruction,
Nor by the matter which your heart prompts you,
But with such words that are but rooted in
Your tongue, though but bastards and syllables
Of no allowance to your bosom's truth.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus asks why she's making him do this. She says that this is what makes him truly noble; to go back and admit he said something wrong and to ask for acceptance instead of bloodshed. Menenius agrees and asks Volumnia to come along.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Volumnia say is the real noble thing to do?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word ignorant most closely means:
A. Genius
B. Rabbit
C. Stupid
D. Child

Grammar: "Nor by the matter which your heart prompts you."
A. Your heart will be a prompt.
B. Don’t listen you want you heart tells you to do.
C. You heart is very big.
D. Do you want a new heart in order to prompt yourself?

DISCUSSION: Who is smarter, Volumnia or Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
This but done,
Even as she speaks, why, their hearts were yours;
For they have pardons, being ask'd, as free
As words to little purpose.

SUMMARY:

READING COMPREHENSION:

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word flatter most closely means:
A. Insult
B. Invite
C. Complain
D. Praise

Grammar: "I have been I’ the market place; and, sir,’ tis fit you make a strong party, or defend yourself by calmness or by absence:"
A. I will defend you to the death my lord because you are such a great king.
B. The people of the market place want to have a nice conversation with you.
C. I have been to the market-place and it is best if you have a lot of friends with you of you shouldn’t go at all.
D. The market-place is a great place to by fruits and vegetables, even for a king.
DISCUSSION: How will Coriolanus defend himself?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Must I go show them my unbarbed sconce?
Must I with base tongue give my noble heart
A lie that it must bear? Well, I will do't:
Yet, were there but this single plot to lose,

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus agrees to go to the market place and speak without anger. Although he will not be speaking his mind, he agreed to do it. His mother tells him that he is doing the right thing.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What is Coriolanus going to do?

Vocabulary: In the quote above the word discharge most closely means:
A. Unload
B. Abuse
C. Credit
D. Connect

Grammar: "Must I with base tongue give my noble heart a lie that it must bear."
A. In my speech, I must lie.
B. You must lie for me because my heart is noble.
C. Your heart is not noble like mine, therefore I am better than you
D. The bear in the cage over there must lie to my noble heart.
DISCUSSION: Will Coriolanus listen to advice?
QUOTE:

CORIOLANUS
Well, I must do't:
Away, my disposition, and possess me
Some harlot's spirit! my throat of war be turn'd,
Which quired with my drum, into a pipe
Small as an eunuch, or the virgin voice
That babies lulls asleep!

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus is saying that he must do this, but in order to do it, he must put himself in a child's position and speak from an innocent place in his heart. Volumnia says she will feel better if she knows her son is not going to die.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus have to do to get this speech over with?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Disposition most closely means:
A. Distortion
B. Power
C. Assemble
D. Distract

Grammar: "To beg of thee, it is my more dishonour then thou of them."
A. You must beg my to dishonor them.
B. You will dishonor yourself by wearing those clothes.
C. It is not honorable to beg me for any thing.
D. I beg you; it is more of a dishonor to me than to them.

DISCUSSION: Do you think that deep down, Coriolanus really loves the impoverished?
Coriolanus Act3, Scene 2

QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
Pray, be content:
Mother, I am going to the market-place;
Chide me no more. I'll mountebank their loves,
Cog their hearts from them, and come home beloved
Of all the trades in Rome.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus assures his mother that he is going to do this the right way. He promises his mother and wife that he will return a consul and nothing less. Cominius and Menenius warn him that there will be criticism and he must control himself.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus promise he will return as?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Mountebank most closely means:
A. Vender of false products
B. Doctor of brain surgery
C. Captain of large ships
D. Teacher of many students

Grammar: "arm yourself to answer mildly; for they are prepared with accusations,"
A. Get ready to answer all of the questions because they are ready to ask them of you.
B. That guy just lost an arm in battle. Get ready to answer a lot of questions.
C. Don’t answer any one’s questions but get ready to arm yourself.
D. Arm yourself with something to fight the people of the city.

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus be mild? Would you be mild?
QUOTE:
BRUTUS
In this point charge him home, that he affects
Tyrannical power: if he evade us there,
Enforce him with his envy to the people,
And that the spoil got on the Antiates
Was ne'er distributed.

SUMMARY:
Brutus received news that Coriolanus is coming and he and Sicinius plan
to irritate Coriolanus so much that he cracks and is not able to calmly
talk.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How do the Tribunes plan to make Coriolanus' speech a failure?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word catalogue most closely means:
A. List
B. Case
C. Envelope
D. Camera

Grammar: "Have you a catalogue of all the voices that we have precured
set down by the polls?
A. Do you have a magazine with a lot of poles in it?
B. Do you have a list of all the things the people wanted to say that
was obtained in the polls taken?
C. How did you get that bump on your head? Did you run into a pole?
D. The catalogue you ordered with the poles of the people has arrived in the mail.

DISCUSSION: Who is more tyrannical, Sicinius or Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
Assemble presently the people hither;
And when they bear me say 'It shall be so
I' the right and strength o' the commons,' be it either
For death, for fine, or banishment, then let them
If I say fine, cry 'Fine;' if death, cry 'Death.'

SUMMARY:
Sicinius tells AEdile to go and tell everyone their plan. He says that they will do whatever possible, whether its death or banishment. He tells AEdile to go tell the people to agree with whatever he says when Coriolanus is here.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius want to do to Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word contradiction most closely means:
A. Rage
B. Control
C. Opposite
D. Label

Grammar: "Assemble presently the people hither;"
A. Hit her in the assembly.
B. Assemble my speech for the people hither
C. Right now gather everyone here.
D. The people hither should not assemble hither.

DISCUSSION: Will Coriolanus be able to stand up to the torments of the crowd, and the senators and the tribunes?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
Calmly, I do beseech you.
CORIOLANUS
Ay, as an ostler, that for the poorest piece
Will bear the knave by the volume.

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus says a quick prayer for Rome so whatever is best will happen.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus want to happen to Rome?

Vocabulary: In the quote above the word Throng most closely means:
A. Control
B. Surround
C. Thrust
D. Transplant

Grammar: "Throng our large temples with the shows of peace, and not our streets with wars!"
A. Put on a throng and make war in the streets.
B. Cover our temples with benefits of peace rather than make war in the streets.
C. Are large temples are too large, throng them and shower the city with peace.
D. Our streets make a good place for war.

DISCUSSION: Here come the people, how have the masses changed over time? Or have they changed at all?
QUOTATION:

AEdile
List to your tribunes. Audience: peace, I say!

CORIOLANUS
First, hear me speak.
Both Tribunes
Well, say. Peace, ho!

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus asks the Tribunes if whatever is decided here is the final decision. They say that whatever the people decide will be the final decision.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What did Coriolanus want to know?

Vocabulary: In the quote above the word Censure most closely means:
A. Blame
B. Celebration
C. Suppress
D. Distribute

Grammar: "to suffer lawful censure for such faults as shall be proven upon you?"
A. Will you agree to the punishment handed to you because of the crimes you are found guilty of?
B. You will suffer in hell for your deeds on earth.
C. You were a great king so nothing is going to happen to you.
D. We will try to prove your innocence but if we don’t you are in trouble.

DISCUSSION: Would you let Coriolanus speak?
QUOTE:
MENENIUS
Lo, citizens, he says he is content:
The warlike service he has done, consider; think
Upon the wounds his body bears, which show
Like graves i' the holy churchyard.

SUMMARY:
Menenius begins speaking to the crowd, reminding them of how Coriolanus has fought for this country and all he has left are the scars to prove it. Coriolanus asks how it is possible for them to vote for him as consul and one hour later all change their minds.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How does Menenius start the conversation?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Malicious most closely means:
A. Spiteful
B. Moral
C. Primer
D. Quarrel

Grammar: "Lo, citizens, he says he is content:
A. Look out citizens! He’s content!
B. It’s all right, citizens he is the king.
C. Listen citizens he agrees.
D. He is not content."
DISCUSSION: Do the remarks of the consuls remind you of the smear tactics of politics today? Anything else?
QUOTE:

SICINIUS
Answer to us.

CORIOLANUS
Say, then: 'tis true, I ought so.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius tells Coriolanus that they have heard that he wants to become consul of Rome so that he will slowly be able to take power of everything and become a tyrannical ruler. This makes Coriolanus furious.

READING COMPREHENSION:
How does Sicinius make Coriolanus angry again?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Tyrannical most closely means:
A. Fun, enjoyable
B. Cruel, oppressive
C. Nice, helpful
D. Tall, cold

Grammar: "We charge you, that you have contrived to take from Rome all season’d office and to wind yourself into power tyrannical;"
A. You are a very bad man and therefor should pay.
B. You are found innocent, your are free to go.
C. We accuse you of trying to be a tyrannical leader of Rome.
D. You are a smart man but not smart enough to trick us.
DISCUSSION: Does Coriolanus actually want to be called to power?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
The fires i' the lowest hell fold-in the people!
Call me their traitor! Thou injurious tribune!
Within thine eyes sat twenty thousand deaths,

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus goes into outrage again and starts speaking about them calling him a traitor. This give Sicinius an opportunity to make the crowd go on his side.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What makes the crowd mad at Coriolanus again?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word injurious most closely means:
A. Helpful
B. Plentiful
C. Hateful
D. Hurtful

Grammar: "Thou injurious tribune! Within thin eyes sat twenty thousand deaths,"
A. You evil tribune. While you were in power you watched twenty thousand people die.
B. If I give you twenty thousand dollars, will you let me go?
C. I have killed twenty thousand people in one day.
D. You are the best tribune Rome has ever had.
DISCUSSION: How would you react if you were called a traitor?
QUOTE:
BRUTUS
But since he hath
Served well for Rome,--
CORIOLANUS
What do you prate of service?

SUMMARY:
Brutus and Coriolanus go at each other's throats, arguing about what the other has done for the country. Menenius gets mad at Coriolanus, reminding him that he has made a promise to his mother and so far he is not keeping it.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Menenius remind Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: In the quote above the word Prate most closely means:
A. Chatter
B. Pray
C. Congress
D. Repeal

Grammar: "Is this the promise that you made your mother?
A. Is this promise the same one you made to your mother?
B. Your mother made me a promise.
C. How dare you insult my mother with a false promise.
D. Will you make a promise to me?

DISCUSSION: Should Coriolanus submit to the government?
QUOTE:
CORIOLANUS
I know no further:
Let them pronounce the steep Tarpeian death,
Vagabond exile, raying, pent to linger
But with a grain a day,

SUMMARY:
Coriolanus gets furious again and says he doesn’t care whether they kill him or not. He doesn’t care about anything anymore. They can do whatever they want to him. Sicinius decides to banish Coriolanus from Rome forever.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Sicinius decide to do?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Vagabond most closely means:
A. Lumberman
B. Wanderer
C. Stalker
D. Jogger

Grammar: "I know no further: let them pronounce the steep Tarpeian death."
A. I don’t know how to pronounce the word "Tarpeian".
B. I don’t know anything else, if you want to kill me go ahead.
C. I want to die because I don’t know anything.
D. You aren’t going to kill me because I know something you don’t.

DISCUSSION: How would an individual respond if they were threatened to be murdered by being tied to a rock?
QUOTE:
Citizens
It shall be so, it shall be so; let him away:
He's banish'd, and it shall be so.
COMINIUS
Hear me, my masters, and my common friends,—

SUMMARY:
The citizens agree to banish Coriolanus. Cominius tries to make them reconsider by trying to talk to them but they don’t let him. They say that this is their final decision and everyone agrees with this decision.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Who wants to banish Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word profound most closely means:
A. Profit
B. Fortune
C. Deep
D. Division

Grammar: "It shall be so, let him away: He's banish'd, and it shall be so."
A. It will be, let him go: he is banished.
B. He will not be banished it is not so.
C. Let him run away like a coward.
D. Let’s go kill him and hang his body in the streets.

DISCUSSION: Do you want to banish Coriolanus?
QUOTE:
SICINIUS
We know your drift: speak what?
BRUTUS
There's no more to be said, but he is banish'd,
As enemy to the people and his country:
It shall be so.

SUMMARY:
Sicinius, Brutus and the citizens don't let Cominius speak.
Coriolanus says he doesn't care that they have banished him and he
doesn't care about this country anymore. There are a lot of better
things out there waiting for him.

READING COMPREHENSION:
What does Coriolanus think about the world outside Rome?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Carcasses most closely means:
A. Cadaver
B. Ditch
C. Horn
D. Spring

Grammar: "There is no more to be said, but he is banish'd, as enemy to
the people and his country:"
A. Don't say anything else, he is out leader.
B. Continue to speak about him because he is not banished,
C. Don’t talk about it any more, he is banished and therefore an enemy to the state.
D. Let’s all through a part for him because we love him so much.

DISCUSSION: Should the tribunes allow Cominius to speak?
QUOTE:
AEdile
The people's enemy is gone, is gone!
Citizens
Our enemy is banish'd! he is gone! Hoo! hoo!

SUMMARY:
AEdile becomes happy that Coriolanus is leaving. Everybody else also get happy for that matter. Sicinius tells Aedile to make sure that Coriolanus leaves and doesn’t stay.

READING COMPREHENSION:
Who wants to make sure Coriolanus get out of Rome?

Vocabulary: In The quote above the word Vexation most closely means:
A. Offend
B. Infuse
C. Afflict
D. Infect.

Grammar: "Go, see him out our gates,"
A. Go make sure he leaves.
B. Go don’t let him leave.
C. Stay and wonder if he leaves.
D. Go do what ever you want because it is time to party.
DISCUSSION: What will happen next?
CORIOLANUS ACT IV

Cell one
Quote: Volumnia: Now the red pestilence strike all trades in Rome, And occupations perish

Summary: Coriolanus is saying goodbye to his mother and his wife because the commoners are kicking him out of Rome. He tells his mother to be strong like she taught him, and consoles her.

Reading comprehension: Why is Coriolanus leaving?

In the quote above, the word perish most closely means:
   A) die
   B) live
   C) happy
   D) run

Discussion question: if you were being separated from your mother and wife, would you console them or cry with them?

Cell two
Quote: ’tis fond to wail inevitable strokes, As ’tis to laugh at ’em. My mother, you wot well My hazards still have been your solace: and Believe’t not lightly –though I go alone, Like to a lonely dragon, that his fen” -Coriolanus

Summary: Coriolanus tells his mother to be strong because times like these test your spirit. He says goodbye to her again. Volumnia, his mother, asks him where he would go by himself.

Reading comprehension: What is Coriolanus’ mother’s name? What does she ask him?

In the quote above, the word solace most closely means:
   a) comfort in ego
   b) comfort from sorrow, consolation
   c) to have fun
   d) being happy with your life

Discussion question: Do you think that hard times really test your spirit, or that hard times are there for you to learn from?
Cell three
Quote: Cominius: I’ll follow thee a month, devise with thee
Where thou shalt rest, that thou mayst hear of us
And we of thee: so if the time thrust forth
A cause for thy repeal, we shall not send
O’er the vast world to seek a single man,
And lose advantage, which doth ever cool
I’ the absence of the needer.

Summary: Cominius offers to go with Coriolanus for a month.
Coriolanus refuses, and says that he still has many years to live and
not to waste on this.

Reading comprehension: what does Cominius offer to do?

In the quote above, the word *repeal* most closely means:
   a) to recall a lousy politician
   b) to be called back from exile
   c) to be happy with yourself
   d) to peel an orange again

discussion question: would you comfort a friend in a time of need?

Cell four
Quote: Sicinius: Bid them all home; he’s gone, and we’ll no further.
The nobility are vex’d, whom we see have sided
In his behalf.

Summary: Sicinius and Brutus are disappointed that Coriolanus has
already left.

Reading comprehension: Why are Sicinius and Brutus disappointed?

In the quote above, the word *vex* most closely means:
   a) to annoy or bother
   b) to make happy, bliss
   c) to jog, run
   d) to bleed a lot

discussion question: would you humiliate someone for the fun of it?

Cell five
Quote: Volumnia: o, ye’re well met: the hoarded plague o’ the gods
Requite your love!

Summary: Brutus notices that Volumnia is coming. They decide not to talk to her because they have heard that she’s mad. She knows that they are there, and tells Brutus to leave.

Reading comprehension: why don’t Brutus and Sicinius want to talk to Volumnia?

In the quote above, the word hoarded most closely means:
   A) to be dead
   B) to be alive
   C) to gather or accumulate
   D) to push away, avoid

discussion question: would you talk to someone that you think is insane?

Cell six
Quote: Virgilia: what then!
He’ld make an end of thy posterity.

Summary: Sicinius asks Volumnia if she is human. Brutus gets scared of Volumnia, since he thinks she’s crazy, and asks if he could leave.

Reading comprehension: why does Brutus want to leave?

In the quote above, the word posterity most closely means:
   a) the people of Rome
   b) the hands of monkeys
   c) the speakers on computers
   d) the descendants

discussion question: if you thought someone was legally insane, would you bring it to his attention?

Cell seven:

Summary: a Roman meets a Volsce and tells him that he already knows him.
Reading comprehension: what does the roman tell the volsce?

In the quote above, word nicanor most closely means:
   a) conqueror
   b) mummy
   c) a dead person
   d) a monkey’s hand

discussion question: would you tell someone that you already know them when they don’t know you?

Cell eight
Quote: Roman (Nicanor): I shall, between this and supper, tell you most
Strange things from Rome; all tending to the good of
Their adversaries. Have you an army ready, say you?

Summary: Nicanor tells Adrian that although the main blaze of the rebellion has passed away, a small incident would make it arise again.

Reading comprehension: what does Nicanor tell Adrian?

In the quote above, the word adversaries most closely means:
   a) opponents, enemies
   b) dead people
   c) monkeys’ hands
   d) red shirt seniors

Discussion question: do you think that the Roman and the Volsce are getting along?
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE

Cell 9

Third Servingman
"What have you to do here, fellow? Pray you, avoid the house."

Coriolanus
"Let me but stand; I will not hurt your hearth."

Summary: The third servingman asks Coriolanus of what he’s doing there to which he responds to leave him alone because he’s a gentleman, but the servingman doesn’t believe him. The servingman tells him to go away, but Coriolanus won’t so the servingman tells him that he’s going to go tell on him.

Reading Comprehension: What does the servingman tell Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: “Follow your function, go, and batten on cold bits.”
In the quote above *batten* most closely means
a) get choked
b) get fattened
c) get nourished
d) get bald

Discussion: Would you go and tell if someone you didn’t know was standing around doing nothing?

Contemporary: "Pray you, poor gentleman, take up some other station; here's no place for you; pray you, avoid: come."
     a) I beg you don’t come near me
     b) I beg of you, tell me where’s the bus station?
     c) I beg you, go somewhere else.
     d) I beg of you, go and leave me alone.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 10

Quote
Third Servingman
"Where dwellest thou?"

Coriolanus
"Under the canopy"

Summary: The third servingman asks Coriolanus where he dwells but doesn’t understand what the answer is. He asks for an explanation and then ridicules the answer to that one, but then Coriolanus insults his master, and the servingman gets mad.

Reading Comprehension: Why does the servingman get mad?

Vocabulary: “Then thou dwellest with daws too?
In the quote above the word daws most closely means
a) jaws
b) dogs
c) birds
d) fools

Discussion: If you had a master would you get angry if they bagged on him?

Contemporary:
"How, sir! Do you meddle with my master?"
 a) WHAT!! You’re having an affair with my master?
b) Oh hell no! You’re talking s*** about my boss?!
c) How come you mess with my boss?
d) Don’t mess with my master!
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 11

Quote
Aufidius
"Where is this fellow?"

Second Servingman
"Here, sir; I’d have beaten him like a dog, but for disturbing the lords within."

Summary: Aufidius enters with the second servingman and asks who the guy loitering around is at. He then asks Coriolanus who he is and where he came from and why he won’t speak. Coriolanus talks to himself about how he is still not recognized. Aufidius, exasperated once again asks for a name. Coriolanus gives an evasive answer. Aufidius tries to guess, but can’t.

Reading Comprehension: What does Aufidius want to know from Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: “Thou hast a grim appearance, and thy face bears a command in’t; though thy tackle’s torn.
In the quote above the word tackle most closely means
a) shirt
b) football
c) gear
d) sword

Discussion: would Coriolanus’ answers exasperate you?
Contemporary:
"Prepare thy brow to frown: know'st thou me yet?"
   a) Start frowning because you don’t know me.
   b) Don’t frown you don’t know me yet
   c) Don’t you wish you knew me?
   d) You’re going to start frowning anytime soon, do you know me now?
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 12

Coriolanus tells him his name and that he’s done great harm to the Volscian family and has received honors for doing so. He explains that he’s been banished from Rome and that wants to join Aufidius so he could get revenge. He offers to fight against Rome but says that he understands if they want to kill him for revenge.

Reading Comprehension: Why is Coriolanus offering his help?

Vocabulary: “...for I will fight against my canker’d country with the spleen off the under fiends.”
In the quote above the word canker’d most closely means
a) cancer
b) stupid
c) infected
d) corrupted

Discussion: Would you be as brave as to go to your enemy’s house and offer your help knowing that they might kill you?

Contemporary:
"The cruelty and envy of the people, permitted by our dastard nobles, who have all forsook me, hath devour'd the rest; and suffer'd me by the voice of slaves to be whoop'd out of Rome."
a) The stupid nobles let the poor people’s cruelty get out of hand and they banished me from Rome
b) The poor people devoured each other and I escaped from Rome
c) The poor people are cruel to the stupid nobles, so I left the country
d) The nobles were envious of the poor people’s cruelty so they exiled me.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 13

Aufidius
"If Jupiter should from yond cloud speak divine things, and say 'tis true,' I'ld not believe them more than thee, all noble Marcius."

Summary: Aufidius says that he is happy to greet Coriolanus as a friend and declares that his love is as strong as his hatred was. HE says that Coriolanus is very welcome at his house and that he will announce his arrival to the senators.

Reading Comprehension: Does Aufidius feel like killing Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: “Each word thou hast spoke hath weeded from my heart a root of ancient envy.”
In the quote above the word weeded most closely means
a) Interred bones  
   b) Removed a pesky irritant  
   c) Corrected a sloppy answer  
   d) Wronged a house

Discussion: Would you readily accept someone into your household?

Contemporary: "O, come, go in, and take our friendly senators by the hands; who are now here...”
   a) Go inside and talk to the senators because they are nice.  
   b) Come inside with me and meet the senators that are here today.  
   c) Go outside and wait for the nice senators to hold your hands.  
   d) Come inside and go see the nice senators that are here.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE

Cell 14

Quote
Aufidius
"Whether to knock against the gates of Rome, or rudely visit them in parts remote, to fright them, ere destroy."

Summary: Coriolanus is delighted at the answer he receives. Aufidius offers to share his command with Coriolanus because he knows Rome’s strengths and weaknesses and can be of great help. The two men then go inside to introduce Coriolanus to the senators.

Reading Comprehension: What does Aufidius offer Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: “...if thou wilt have the leading of thine own revenges, take the one half of my commission...”
In the quote above the word commission most closely means
a) army
b) money
c) medical benefits
d) authority

Discussion: Would you offer half of your command to someone who used to be your enemy?

Contemporary:
"Let me commend thee first to those that shall say yea to thy desires."
   a) Let me tell those that like you that you are here.
   b) Let me go see who likes you in there.
   c) Let me compliment you in front of the people that do like you.
Let me compliment you before you go inside.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 15

Quote
Second Servingman
"he is simply the rarest man i' the world."

First Servingman
"I think he is: but a greater soldier than he you wot on."

Summary: The servingmen discuss what just happened. They talk about how it was obvious that he wasn’t only a commoner and declare him the rarest man on earth. The second servingman says that he looks like a great soldier, even better than their master.

Reading Comprehension: According to the servants who is the better soldier?

Vocabulary: “By my hand, I had thought to have stricken him with a cudgel...”

In the quote above the word *cudgel* most closely means

a) badge  
b) knife  
c) club  
d) rifle

Discussion: Do you think that the servants are exaggerating a bit?

Contemporary:
"Nay, not so neither: but I take him to be the greater soldier."

a) No, not really; but I think he’s a better soldier.  
b) No, not that either; but he’s a great soldier.  
c) No, he’s better than that soldier.
No, he’s the greatest out there.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDUS’S HOUSE
Cell 16

Quote
Third Servingman
"O slaves, I can tell you news. -- news, you rascals!"

First Servingman, Second Servingman

Summary: The third servingman enters and tells the other two that he has news. He tells them that he would not be Roman no matter what. They get sidetracked and start talking about Coriolanus again and how he is a good soldier, or so they heard.

Reading Comprehension: Who has news to tell?

Vocabulary: “He was too hard for him directly, to say the troth on’t: before Corioli scotched him and notched him like a carbon ado”
In the quote above the word scotched most closely means
a) the liquor beverage
b) blocked with a chock
c) kicked, injured
d) taped with scotch tape

Discussion: What do you think the news will be?

Contemporary:
"I would not be a Roman, of all nations; I had as lieve be a condemned man."
  a) I would never become a Roman citizen; I’d rather be a condemned man.
b) I would never be a Roman, out of all the nations in the world, I’d die before.
c) I think I’d rather be condemned than be a Roman man.
d) I’d rather be dead than a Roman, man.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 17

"But when they shall see, sir, his crest up again, and the man in blood, they will out of their burrows, like conies after rain, and revel all with him."

Summary: The third servingman describes how well the senators treated Coriolanus. He tells the other servingmen that Coriolanus took it upon himself to march to Rome and fight. They all believe that he is capable of doing so, but the third servingman says that he also has enemies and might be prevented.

Reading Comprehension: how did the senators treat Coriolanus?

Vocabulary: “He’ll go, he says, and sowl the porter of Rome gates by the ears...”
In the quote above the word sowl most closely means
   a) beat
   b) drag
   c) bite
   d) soil

Discussion: Do you believe that Coriolanus is capable of beating Rome?

Contemporary: "And he’s as like to do’t as any man I can imagine."
   a) And he’s going to do it, just like any man would, that I can imagine.
   b) And he’s not going to do it because he’s like every other man.
   c) I can imagine he will do it.
d) He’ll do it because he’s like other men.
SCENE V. THE SAME. A HALL IN AUFIDIUS’S HOUSE
Cell 18

"To-morrow; to-day; presently; you shall have the drum struck up this afternoon: 'tis, as it were, a parcel of their feast, and to be executed ere they wipe their lips."

Summary: The servingmen talk about which is better, war or peace. They decide that they prefer war because then they can’t be cuckolds or end up with bastard children.

Reading Comprehension: What do the servingmen prefer?

Vocabulary: ‘Tis so: and as war, in some sort, may be said to be a ravisher, so it cannot be denied but peace is a great maker of cuckolds.”
In the quote above the word ravisher most closely means
  a) hungry-person
  b) rapist
  c) a black crow
  d) Death

Discussion: Which would you choose, war or peace?

Contemporary:
"The wars for my money."
  a) My money for the wars
  b) The wars always spend my money
  c) My money is always gone because of the wars
d) I have no money because I give it to soldiers
SCENE VI. ROME. A PUBLIC PLACE

Cell 19

Quote
Brutus
"Is this Menenius?"

Sicinius
"'Tis he. 'tis he: O, he is grown most kind of late."

Summary: Brutus and Sicinius appear in public, bragging about their defeat of Coriolanus. Sicinius remarks that the world is okay now that the commoners are tame. Menenius enters and greets them. They start talking about Coriolanus and how its good that he’s gone, Menenius doesn’t agree and says it would’ve been better if he had just adjusted to the political changes.

Reading Comprehension: Why are Brutus and Sicinius content with life right now?

Vocabulary: “All’s well; and might have been much better, if he could have temporized.”
In the quote above the word temporized most closely means
a) tempura bowl (at Yoshinoya)
b) temperature
c) compromised
d) threatened

Discussion: Would you say something contrary to Sicinius’ and Brutus’ opinions?
Contemporary:
"Nay, I hear nothing: his mother and his wife hear nothing from him."
   a) Nope, I don’t hear anything; they don’t either.
   b) Nope, I don’t hear nothing, his wife and mom don’t hear nothing either.
   c) No, I don’t hear anything from him, neither do his mom and wife.
   d) No, I don’t know anything; his mom and wife either.
SCENE VI. ROME. A PUBLIC PLACE

Cell 20

Quote

Citizens
"The gods preserve you both!"

Sicinius
"God-den, our neighbors."

Summary: Some group of citizens enter, wishing luck to the gentlemen and that they wish them a good day. One citizen says that he and his whole family will pray for both Brutus and Sicinius. They are both pleased that they are complimented and so praised.

Reading Comprehension: Who is complimenting Sicinius and Brutus?

Vocabulary: “God-den to you all, god-den to you all.”
In the quote above god-den most closely means
   a) bye
   b) god be with you
   c) hi
   d) gotten

Discussion: Do you think that the citizens are truly feeling that way towards them?

Contemporary: "Ourselves, our wives, and children, on our knees, are bound to pray for you both."
   a) Our wives, our children and we are all on our knees because we’re begging.
   b) Our whole families are going to pray for you guys.
   c) Our whole families, including us are on our knees praying for both of you.
   d) Our wives, our children and we might go on our knees to pray for you.
Quote:
BRUTUS
Caius Marcius was
A worthy officer i' the war; but insolent,
O'ercome with pride, ambitious past all thinking,
Self-loving,--
MENENIUS
I think not so.
SICINIUS
We should by this, to all our lamentation,
If he had gone forth consul, found it so.
BRUTUS
The gods have well prevented it, and Rome
Sits safe and still without him.

Summary: Menenius sighs and says that it would have been better if Coriolanus could have adjusted himself to the political situation. In response, Brutus claims that Coriolanus could have never adjusted, for he was too insolent, proud, self-centered, and ambitious. Menenius disagrees, but his still thankful, like the tribunes, that Coriolanus was not elected consul and that Rome is safe and without him.

Comprehension Question: What are the tribunes and Brutus thankful about?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word *lamentation* most closely means

a) expression of sorrow
b) expression of happiness
c) expression of tolerance
d) expression of anger
Discussion Question: Why do you believe the tribunes and Menenius didn't want Coriolanus elected consul?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
And affecting one sole throne, without assistance.

a) And affectting one sole throne: without assistance.
b) And affecting oned sole throne, within assistance.
c) And one affecting sole throne, without assistanse.
d)correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 22

Quote:

AEdile
Worthy tribunes,
There is a slave, whom we have put in prison,
Reports, the Volsces with two several powers
Are enter'd in the Roman territories,
And with the deepest malice of the war
Destroy what lies before 'em.
MENENIUS
'Tis Aufidius,
Who, hearing of our Marcius' banishment,
Thrusts forth his horns again into the world;
Which were inshell'd when Marcius stood for Rome,
And durst not once peep out.
BRUTUS
Go see this rumourer whipp'd. It cannot be
The Volsces dare break with us.

Summary:Aedile enters telling the news that the Volscians have entered Roman territories and are devastating the countryside. Menenius believes that Aufidius must have been encouraged by the news of Coriolanus’ banishment and is preparing to attack Rome. The tribunes refuse to believe the news or Menenius’ suppositions. As a result they order the slave who is spreading these rumors about the Volscians to be whipped.

Comprehension Question: What news did Aedile bring?

Vocabulary Question: “ and with the deepest malice of the war...” In the quote above the word malice most closely means
a) to see others triumph
b) to see others express themselves
c) to see others fall
d) to see others suffer

Discussion Question: Why do you believe the tribunes refuse to believe the news that was given?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
Come, what talk you, of Marcius?
a) Come: what talk your of Marcius?
b) Come, what talked you of Marcius?.
c) Come, what talk you of Marcius?
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 23

Quote:

MENENIUS
Cannot be!
We have record that very well it can,
And three examples of the like have been
Within my age. But reason with the fellow,
Before you punish him, where he heard this,
Lest you shall chance to whip your information
And beat the messenger who bids beware
Of what is to be dreaded.
BRUTUS
Not possible.

Summary: Menenius continues to argue that there is evidence that proves that the rumors might be true and that they should find out were he heard it from before they punish him. However, Sicinius and Brutus still ignore Menenius’ warning and suggestion.

Comprehension Question: What is Menenius suggestion?

Vocabulary Question: “which were inshell’d when Marcius stood for Rome...”
In the quote above the word inshell’d most closely means

a) to stand up
b) to hide
c) to whimper
d) to roar
Discussion Question: What might be the evidence that Menenius is talking about?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
Tell not me; I know this canot be.
a) Tell not me: I know this cannot be.
b) Tell not me-- I knowed this cannot be.
c) Tell not me, I known this cannot be.
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place

Cell 24

Quote:

Messenger
The nobles in great earnestness are going
All to the senate-house: some news is come
That turns their countenances.
SICINIUS
’Tis this slave;--
Go whip him, ’fore the people's eyes:--his raising;
Nothing but his report.
Messenger
It is spoke freely out of many mouths--
How probable I do not know--that Marcius,
Join'd with Aufidius, leads a power 'gainst Rome,
And vows revenge as spacious as between
The young'st and oldest thing.

Summary: A messenger enters with the news that the Senators are rushing to the Senate house because some frightening news has been received. Sicinius assumes it was the rumor spread by the slave and again orders him to be whipped. However, the news was that Coriolanus has joined Aufidius and leads the Volscians against Rome.

Comprehension Question: What was the new news that was received?

Vocabulary Question: “ and vows revenge as spacious as between the young'st and oldest thing.”
In the quote above the word spacious most closely means

a) large bed
b) large arena

c) large area

d) difference

Discussion Question: Why do you believe Coriolanus joined up with Aufidus?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
Yes; worthy sir; the slave's report is seconded: and more'
More fearful, is deliver'd.

a) Yes: worthy sir; the slave's report is seconded, and more,
More fearful, is deliver'd.

b) Yes, worthy sir, the slaves' report is seconded's and more,
More fearful, is deliver'd.

c) Yes, worthy sir, the slave's report is seconded; and more,
More fearful, is deliver'd.

d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 25

Quote:

BRUTUS
Raised only, that the weaker sort may wish
Good Marcius home again.
SICINIUS
The very trick on't.
MENENIUS
This is unlikely:
He and Aufidius can no more atone
Than violentest contrariety.
Enter a second Messenger
Second Messenger
You are sent for to the senate.

Summary: The tribunes refuse to believe what they have heard and see it as a ploy to make them repeal the sentence of banishment. Menenius is surprised by this news because he knows of Coriolanus’ intense hatred for Aufidius. Soon after another messenger enters and summons Menenius to come to the Senate immediately.

Comprehension Question: Why Menenius surprised by the news?

Vocabulary Question: “He and Aufidius can no more atone than violentest contrariety”
In the quote above the word violentest most closely means

a) very violent
b) very glad
c) very good
d) very powerful

Discussion Question: Why do the tribunes believe the news is a type of ploy to make them repeal the sentence of banishment?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
A fearful army, led by Caius Marcius associated with Aufidius, rages Upon our territories.

a) A fearful army: led by Caius Marcius associated with Aufidius; rages upon our territories.
b) A fearful army rages, led by Caius Marcius associated with Aufidius; upon our territories.
c) A fearful army, Caius Marcius led by associated with Aufidius, rages Upon our territories.
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 26

Quote:

COMINIUS
O, you have made good work!
MENENIUS
What news? what news?
COMINIUS
Your temples burned in their cement, and
Your franchises, whereon you stood, confined
Into an auger's bore.

Summary: Cominius arrives and sarcastically praises the tribunes for their “good work.” Then he paints a terrifying picture of the destruction of Rome under the leaderships of Coriolanus

Comprehension Question: What does Cominius do when he arrives?

Vocabulary Question: “To melt the city leads upon your pates”
In the quote above the word pates most closely means
a) mind
b) elbow
c) knee
d) shoulders

Discussion Question: Why does Camnius enter in a sarcastic mood?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
You holp have to ravished your own daughters and to melt the city
leads upon your pates, to see your wives dishonour'd to your noses,--
a) You have holp to ravish your own daghters and to meltd the city
leads upon your pates, to see your wives dishonour'd to your noses,--
b) You have holp to ravish your own daughters and to melt the city
leads upon your pates, to see your wives dishonour'd to your noses,--
c) You have holp: to ravish your own daughters :and to melt the city
leads upon your pates, to see your wives dishonour'd to your noses,--
d)correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 27

Quote:

MENENIUS
Pray now, your news?
You have made fair work, I fear me.--Pray, your news?--
If Marcius should be join'd with Volscians,--
COMINIUS
If!
He is their god: he leads them like a thing
Made by some other deity than nature,
That shapes man better; and they follow him,
Against us brats, with no less confidence
Than boys pursuing summer butterflies,
Or butchers killing flies.

Summary: Menenius asked Cominius if it was true that Coriolanus has joined the Volscians. Cominius responded that he has become the "god" of the Volscians, inspiring the army with an incredible confidence. Cominius also said that Coriolanus is at the head of the army and everything else.

Comprehension Question: What does Menenius ask Cominius?

Literacy Device Question: In the following line when Cominius says, "Against us brats, with no less confidence than boys pursuing summer butterflies, or butchers killing flies." is an example of the literacy device

a) personification
b) metaphor
c) oxymoron
d) alliteration

Discussion Question: Why do you believe Coriolanus became a god in the eyes of the Volscians?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
You and your apron-men; you that stood so up much on the voice of occupation and the breath of garlic-eaters!

a) You and your apron-men; you that stood so up much, on the voice of occupation and the breath of garlic-eaters!?
b) You and your apronmen; you that so up much stood on the voice of occupation and the breath of garliceaters!
c) You and your apronmen, you that stood so up much on the voice of occupation, and the breath of garlic-eaters!
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 28

Quote:

COMINIUS
He will shake
Your Rome about your ears.
BRUTUS
But is this true, sir?
COMINIUS
Ay; and you'll look pale
Before you find it other. All the regions
Do smilingly revolt; and who resist
Are mock'd for valiant ignorance,
And perish constant fools.
MENENIUS
We are all undone, unless
The noble man have mercy.

Summary: Cominius is certain that Coriolanus will be victorious, for the regions because all the regions they have attacked have all surrendered. Therefore, Menenius says that only way Rome will be save is if Coriolanus has mercy on them.

Comprehension Question: Why is Cominius certain that Coriolanus will be victorious?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word valiant most closely means

a) constant
b) insecure
c) brave
d) intolerant

Discussion Question: Do you think Coriolanus will have mercy on Rome? Why or why not?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
Who is't can blame him? Your enemis and his find samething in him.
a) Who ist can blame him?-- Your enemies and his finded something in him.
b) Who is't cann blame him? enemies Your and his find something in him.
c) Who is't can blame him? Your enemies and his find something in him.
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 29

Quote:

COMINIUS
Who shall ask it?
The tribunes cannot do't for shame; the people
Deserve such pity of him as the wolf
Does of the shepherds: for his best friends, if they
Should say 'Be good to Rome,' they charged him even
As those should do that had deserved his hate,
And therein show'd like enemies.
MENENIUS
'Tis true:
If he were putting to my house the brand
That should consume it, I have not the face
To say 'Beseech you, cease.' You have made fair hands,
You and your crafts! you have crafted fair!

Summary: Cominius fears that they no longer have the right to beg for mercy because Rome allowed the tribunes to banish Coriolanus in the first place. Menenius sadly agrees and accuses the tribunes for being responsible for the attack.

Comprehension Question: Why does Cominius believe that they don't have the right to beg for mercy?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word beseech most closely means

a) to replace
b) to break
c) to lose

d) to seek

Discussion Question: Do you believe the tribunes were correct in banishing Coriolanus in the first place?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
You have brought, a trembling upon Rome, such as was never so incapable of help.
a) You have brought a trembling upon Rome, such as was never so incapable of help.
b) You have brought: a trembling upon Rome, such as was never, so incapable of help.
c) You have brought' a trembling upon Rome, such as was never, so incapable of help.
d) correct as is
Enter a troop of Citizens
MENENIUS
Here come the clusters.
And is Aufidius with him? You are they
That made the air unwholesome, when you cast
Your stinking greasy caps in hooting at
Coriolanus' exile. Now he's coming;
And not a hair upon a soldier's head
Which will not prove a whip: as many coxcombs
As you threw caps up will he tumble down,
And pay you for your voices. 'Tis no matter;
if he could burn us all into one coal,
We have deserved it.

Summary: A group of citizens enter and Menenius begins to mock
them by accusing them of being responsible for the danger that Rome
is about to face and by telling them that they deserve it.

Comprehension Question: How does Menenius mock the citizens?

Vocabulary Question: “who did hoot him out o' the city”
In the quote above the word hoot most closely means

a) to drive off
b) to bring near
c) to take off
d) to slip off
Discussion Question: Was it correct for Menenius to mock the citizens?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
How! Was it we? wee luved him but, like beasts and cowardly nobles, gave way unto your clusters, who did hoot him out o' the city.

a) How! Was it we? we love him buted, like beastes and cowardly nobles, gave way unto your clusters, who did hoot him out o' the city.
b) How?! Was it we? we loved him but: like beasts and cowardly nobles, gave way unto your clusters; who did hoot him out o' the city.
c) How! Was it we? we loved him but, like beasts and cowardly nobles, gave way unto your clusters, who did hoot him out o' the city.
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 31

Quote:

Citizens
Faith, we hear fearful news.
First Citizen
For mine own part,
When I said, banish him, I said 'twas pity.
Second Citizen
And so did I.
Third Citizen
And so did I; and, to say the truth, so did very
many of us: that we did, we did for the best; and
though we willingly consented to his banishment, yet
it was against our will.
COMINIUS
Ye re goodly things, you voices!
MENENIUS
You have made
Good work, you and your cry! Shall's to the Capitol?
Summary:The citizens begin to regret their decision to exile
Coriolanus. As commoners continue to argue amongst themselves,
Menenius and Cominius leave for the Capitol.

Comprehension Question: Where does Menenius and Cominius leave to?

Vocabulary Question: “and durst not once peep out”
In the quote above the word durst most closely means

a) hide
b) seek
c) dare
d) look

Discussion Question: Why do you believe the citizens are now regretting their decision to exile Coriolanus?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
O, ay, what else?
a) O ay what else?  
b) O, ay, wat else?  
c) O, ay, what else  
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place

Cell 32

Quote:

SICINIUS
Go, masters, get you home; be not dismay'd:
These are a side that would be glad to have
This true which they so seem to fear. Go home,
And show no sign of fear.

First Citizen
The gods be good to us! Come, masters, let's home.
I ever said we were i' the wrong when we banished
him.

Second Citizen
So did we all. But, come, let's home.

Exeunt Citizens

BRUTUS
I do not like this news.

SICINIUS
Nor I.

Summary: The tribunes begin to assure the citizens that there is nothing to worry about and convinced them to go home. Once they are left alone they begin to dread that the news they have heard may be true.

Comprehension Question: What do the tribunes begin to dread?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word dismay'd most closely means

a) despair
b) regret
c) be frighten

d) disillusion

Discussion Question: Why do the tribunes try to reassure the citizens that what they did won't affect them in any way?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
Let's to the Copitol. Would halfed my wealth would buy this for a lie!

a) Lets to the Capital. Would half may wealth would buy this for a lie!
b) Let's to the Capitol. Would half may wealth would by this for a lie!
c) Let's to the Capitol. Would half my wealth would buy this for a lie!
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 33

Quote:

AUFIDIUS
Do they still fly to the Roman?

Lieutenant
I do not know what witchcraft's in him, but
Your soldiers use him as the grace 'fore meat,
Their talk at table, and their thanks at end;

AUFIDIUS
I cannot help it now,
Unless, by using means, I lame the foot
Of our design. He bears himself more proudlier,
Even to my person, than I thought he would
When first I did embrace him: yet his nature
In that's no changeling; and I must excuse
What cannot be amended.

Summary: Aufidius is becoming displeased by Coriolanus’ pride and his growing popularity among the Volscians. He confides his envy to his Lieutenant in a camp at a small distance from Rome. The Lieutenant answers that Coriolanus seems almost to have bewitched their soldiers.

Comprehension Question: Why does Aufidius envy Coriolanus?

Vocabulary Question: “Will be as rash in the repeal, as hasty to expel him thence.”
In the quote above the word hasty most closely means

a) to be fast
b) to be slow  
c) to take time  
d) to stop

Discussion Question: Do you believe envy is a bad thing? Why or why not?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
And you are darken'd on this action, sir, even by your own.  
a) And you are darken'd on this action, sirt, even by your own.  
b) And you are darken'd in this acteon, sir, even by your own.  
c) And you are darken'd in this action, sir, even by your own.  
d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 34

Lieutenant
Yet I wish, sir,--
I mean for your particular,--you had not
Join'd in commission with him; but either
Had borne the action of yourself, or else
To him had left it solely.

AUFIDIUS
Although it seems,
And so he thinks, and is no less apparent
To the vulgar eye, that he bears all things fairly.
And shows good husbandry for the Volscian state,
Fights dragon-like, and does achieve as soon
As draw his sword; yet he hath left undone
That which shall break his neck or hazard mine,
Whene'er we come to our account.

Summary: The Lieutenant wishes that Aufidius had never joined forces with Coriolanus. Aufidius remarks that soon enough he will settle his old scores with Coriolanus. In the meantime Coriolanus fights like a dragon for the Volscians.

Comprehension Question: What did the Lieutenant wish?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word husbandry most closely means

a) destructive
b) soft
c) management
d) hard

Discussion Question: Do you think Aufidius will reconsider his alliance with Coriolanus?

Grammar Question: Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
I understand the well; and be the sure, when he shall came to his account, he knows not what I can urge against him.

a) I understand thee well' and be the sure, when he shall come to his account, he knows not what I can urge against him.

b) I understand thee well; and be thou sure, when he shall come to his account, he knows not what I can urge against him.

c) I understand thee well: and be thou sure, when he shall came to his account; he knows not what, I can urge against him.

d) correct as is
Act IV Scene VI Rome. A public place
Cell 35

Quote:

Lieutenant
Sir, I beseech you, think you he'll carry Rome?
AUFIDIIUS
All places yield to him ere he sits down;
And the nobility of Rome are his:
The senators and patricians love him too:
The tribunes are no soldiers; and their people
Will be as rash in the repeal, as hasty
To expel him thence. I think he'll be to Rome
As is the osprey to the fish, who takes it
By sovereignty of nature. First he was
A noble servant to them; but he could not
Carry his honours even: whether 'twas pride,
Which out of daily fortune ever taints
The happy man; whether defect of judgment,
To fail in the disposing of those chances
Which he was lord of; or whether nature,
Not to be other than one thing, not moving
From the casque to the cushion, but commanding peace
Even with the same austerity and garb
As he controll'd the war; but one of these--
As he hath spices of them all, not all,
For I dare so far free him--made him fear'd,
So hated, and so banish'd: but he has a merit,
To choke it in the utterance. So our virtues
Lie in the interpretation of the time:
And power, unto itself most commendable,
Hath not a tomb so evident as a chair
To extol what it hath done.
One fire drives out one fire; one nail, one nail;
Rights by rights falter, strengths by strengths do fail.
Come, let's away. When, Caius, Rome is thine,
Thou art poor'st of all; then shortly art thou mine.

Summary: The Lieutenant asks Aufidius whether Coriolanus will conquer Rome, and Aufidius is certain of it. Aufidius reflects that Coriolanus was first a patriotic soldier for Rome but due to his pride, defective judgment, and inflexibility as a politician he became hated by the commoners and finally banished. Aufidius ends his speech by saying that ultimately he will end up the winner and that once Coriolanus conquers Rome he will defeat him.

Comprehension Question: What will Aufidius do once Coriolanus conquers Rome?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word austerity most closely means

a) practice
b) hardness
c) weakness
d) injection

Discussion Question: Do you think Coriolanus will allow himself to be defeated? Why or why not?

Literacy Device Question: In the following line when Aufidius says, “I think he'll be to Rome as is the osprey to the fish, who takes it by sovereignty of nature.” is an example of the literacy device

a) simile
b) symbolism
c) imagery
d) oxymoron
Act V scene i – Cell 1

Quote:
MENENIUS

No, I'll not go: you hear what he hath said
Which was sometime his general; who loved him
In a most dear particular. He call'd me father:
But what o' that? Go, you that banish'd him;
A mile before his tent fall down, and knee
The way into his mercy: nay, if he coy'd
To hear Cominius speak, I'll keep at home.

COMINIUS

He would not seem to know me.

Summary: Menenius, Cominius, Sicinius and Brutus enter. The tribunes are trying to persuade Menenius to talk Coriolanus into retreating from Rome. Menenius refuses to go, saying that it is all Brutus and Sicinius’ fault for banishing Coriolanus. Cominius says that he tried to meet with Coriolanus, but Coriolanus pretended not to know who he was.

Reading Comprehension: what do the tribunes try to persuade Menenius to do?

Vocabulary: “nay, if he coy'd To hear Cominius speak, I'll keep at home.”
In this quote, the word coy'd (coyed) means
Discussion question: Why is it that they think Menenius could talk down Coriolanus?

What is the best contemporary paraphrase of “Go, you that banish’d him; A mile before his tent fall down, and knee The way into his mercy”

a. You guys are the ones who banished him in the first place, so you should be the ones who beg for his mercy now.
b. You are them that banished him firstly, so you should be the ones that beg for his mercy now.
c. You guys are the ones who banished him in the first place, or you should be the ones who beg for his mercy now.
d. You guys are the people that banished him in the first place, so, you should be the ones that beg for his mercy now.
COMINIUS

Yet one time he did call me by my name:
I urged our old acquaintance, and the drops
That we have bled together. Coriolanus
He would not answer to: forbad all names;
He was a kind of nothing, titleless,
Till he had forged himself a name o' the fire
Of burning Rome.

Summary: Cominius tells them of how Coriolanus did remember his name when he mentioned all of the experiences they have been through together. However, Coriolanus refused to go by his name and was determined to make himself a new name by conquering Rome. Menenius again blames the tribunes for this fate of Rome.

Reading comprehension: when did Coriolanus call Cominius by his name?

Vocabulary: “He was a kind of nothing, titleless, Till he had forged himself a name o' the fire Of burning Rome.” In this quote, forged means

a. ate
b. enhanced
c. destroyed
d. formed

Discussion question: Why do you think Coriolanus refuses to go by the name Coriolanus?

What is the best contemporary paraphrase of this line: “Why, so: you have made good work! A pair of tribunes that have rack’d for Rome, To make coals cheap”?

a. Great Job! Rome is going to be destroyed because of your stupid little complaints?

b. Great Job! Now Rome- is going to be destroyed- because of your stupid little complaints.

c. Great Job! Now Rome is going to be destroyed because of you’re stupid little complaints!

d. Great Job! Now Rome will be destroyed because of your stupid little complaints!
COMINUS

I minded him how royal 'twas to pardon
When it was less expected: he replied,
It was a bare petition of a state
To one whom they had punish'd.

MENENIUS

Very well:
Could he say less?

COMINUS

I offer'd to awaken his regard
For's private friends: his answer to me was,
He could not stay to pick them in a pile
Of noisome musty chaff: he said 'twas folly,
For one poor grain or two, to leave unburnt,
And still to nose the offence

Summary: Cominius says that he reminded Coriolanus that it is
noble to pardon people when it is not expected, but Coriolanus
did not agree. Menenius sees the logic in Coriolanus’ thinking.
Cominius then asked Coriolanus to pardon his friends, but
Coriolanus still refuses.

Reading comprehension: Was Cominius successful; when he
went to talk to Coriolanus?
Discussion Question: Do you think Menenius will eventually agree to talk to Coriolanus? Why or why not?

Vocabulary: “He could not stay to pick them in a pile Of noisome musty chaff” In this quote, the word *chaff* means

a. fertilizer, poop

b. sandpaper, cat’s tongues

c. banjos, wheelbarrows

d. trashy leftovers, hay

The line “ ’twas folly, For one poor grain or two, to leave unburnt, And still to nose the offence” is an example of the literary device

a. onomatopoeia

b. alliteration

c. hyperbole

d. metaphor
MENENIUS

For one poor grain or two!
I am one of those; his mother, wife, his child,
And this brave fellow too, we are the grains:
You are the musty chaff; and you are smelt
Above the moon: we must be burnt for you.

SICINIUS
Nay, pray, be patient: if you refuse your aid
In this so never-needed help, yet do not
Upbraid's with our distress. But, sure, if you
Would be your country's pleader, your good tongue,
More than the instant army we can make,
Might stop our countryman

Summary: Menenius tells Sicinius that himself, Cominius, and Coriolanus’ family are the only people who Coriolanus should pardon. Sicinius responds by telling Menenius not to make the situation worse by continuing to chide him. He also reminds Menenius that his talking to Coriolanus would be more effective in stopping him than any army they could raise.

Reading comprehension: Who is asking whom to do what?
In the lines “You are the musty chaff; and you are smelt Above the moon: we must be burnt for you,” Menenius uses what literary device to describe Sicinius?

a. hyperbole
b. simile
c. apostrophe
d. pejoration

Discussion: Do you think Menenius is right to blame the tribunes for Coriolanus’ actions?

Vocabulary: “yet do not Upbraid's with our distress”

In this quote, upbraid means

a. reprimand
b. make pretty
c. laugh at
d. confuse
Act V scene i Cell 5

Quote:

**MENENIUS**
No, I'll not meddle.

**SICINIUS**
Pray you, go to him.

**MENENIUS**
What should I do?

**BRUTUS**
Only make trial what your love can do
For Rome, towards Marcius.

Summary: Menenius says that he will not go, and asks what he could say were he to go to Coriolanus. Brutus responds that he need only try to save Rome as much as he loves it.

Reading comprehension: Who is Brutus? Who is Marcius?

Vocabulary: “No, I’ll not meddle.” In this quote, the word *meddle* means
a. melt
b. run away
c. interfere
d. love Rome

Discussion: Do you think Menenius still loves Rome? Why or why not?

What is the best contemporary paraphrase for this sentence: “Pray you, go to him”? 
a. Please go to him.
b. You’re going to him, please.
c. Pleasingly go to him.
d. Please go to him?
Act V scene i Cell 6

Quote:

**MENENIUS**
Well, and say that Marcius
Return me, as Cominius is return'd,
Unheard; what then?
But as a discontented friend, grief-shot
With his unkindness? say't be so?

**SICINIUS**
Yet your good will
must have that thanks from Rome, after the measure
As you intended well

Summary: Menenius asks what will happen is Coriolanus sends him away, like he sent away Cominius. Sicinius says that Rome will still be thankful to him because he had good intentions.

Reading comprehension: Is Menenius confident about his attempt to see Coriolanus? How do you know?

Vocabulary: In the quote above, what does *discontented* mean?

a. pestilential
b. despondent
c. exultant
d. lascivious

Discussion: Do you think Sicinius is being honest to Menenius, or is he just trying to get him to go talk to Coriolanus?
What is the best contemporary paraphrase of the line, “Yet your good will must have that thanks from Rome, after the measure As you intended well”?

a. Rome will still be thankful because you had good intentions.
b. Rome will still be thankfull because you had good intentions.
c. rome will still be thankful because you had good intentions.
d. Rome will still be thankful because you had good in tensions.
COMINIUS
He'll never hear him.

SICINIUS
Not?

COMINIUS
I tell you, he does sit in gold, his eye
Red as 'twould burn Rome; and his injury
The gaoler to his pity. I kneeled before him;
'Twas very faintly he said 'Rise;' dismiss'd me
Thus, with his speechless hand: what he would do,
He sent in writing after me; what he would not,
Bound with an oath to yield to his conditions:
So that all hope is vain.
Unless his noble mother, and his wife;
Who, as I hear, mean to solicit him
For mercy to his country. Therefore, let's hence,
And with our fair entreaties haste them on.

Summary: Menenius reluctantly agrees to go talk down Coriolanus. Brutus wishes him good luck and says that he will surely convince Coriolanus. They leave. Then Cominius remarks to Sicinius that he does not think Coriolanus will agree to listen to Menenius, based on how little attention he paid to Cominius and how much anger towards Rome he could tell Coriolanus has. He says that the only people who could convince Coriolanus to step down would be his wife or mother. They both exit.
Reading comprehension: Who is going to go talk to Coriolanus? Why?

Vocabulary: In the quote, “Who, as I hear, mean to solicit him For mercy to his country,” the word solicit means

a. to predict for the future
b. to fool around with
c. to aggressively follow
d. to seek to obtain by persuasion

The literary device used in the line “I tell you, he does sit in gold, his eye Red as 'twould burn Rome” is an example of

a. metaphor
b. allusion
c. ars est celare artem
d. simile

Discussion: Based on what you know about Coriolanus’ character and his relationship with Menenius, do you think he will agree to listen to Menenius? Why or why not?
“Go back to where you came from!!!!”
Cell 8

Summary:
Menenius approaches the Volscian camp where he meets two guards. He tells them he is from Rome, and that he wants to see Coriolanus. The First senator tells him to return.

Reading Comprehension Question:
Whom does Menenius want to speak to?

Vocabulary Question:
“...’tis well: but, by your leave...”
In the quote above, the word “leave” most closely means
a.) go
b.) departure
c.) abandon
d.) stay

Discussion Question:
What would you do if you were in Menenius’ shoes?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:

Quote:
[First Senator]
Stay: whence are you...You may not pass, you must return...”
[Second Senator] “...Stand, and go back...You'll see your Rome embraced with fire before You'll speak with Coriolanus...”
[MENENIUS] “...You guard like men; 'tis well: but, by your leave, I am an officer of state, and come To speak with Coriolanus...[I am] From Rome...”
“...You may not pass, you must return: our general Will no more hear from thence...”

a) Come on in buddy, our general was just talking about you.
b) You have to go back to where you came from, our general has heard enough about this place.
c) Go back, you can’t pass by. Our general does not want to hear anymore from that place.
d) You can pass only if our general agrees to hear from there.
"I don’t believe you. Just go back."

Cell 9

Quote:
[First Senator]
“…Faith, sir, if you had told as many lies in his behalf as you have uttered words in your own, you should not pass here; no, though it were as virtuous to lie as to live chastely. Therefore, go back.…”

[Menenius]
“…Good my friends, If you have heard your general talk of Rome, And of his friends there, it is lots to blanks, My name hath touch’d your ears it is Menenius…I must have leave to pass… Prithee, fellow, remember my name is Menenius, always factionary on the party of your general…”

Summary:
The first senator continues to tell Menenius to get lost. He tells the senator that it is very possible that he has heard of him before from Coriolanus. The first senator says that he doesn’t believe him.

Reading Comprehension Question:
Does the first senator believe Menenius?

Vocabulary Question:
“…Prithee, fellow, remember my name is Menenius…”
In the quote above, the word “prithee” most closely means
a.) Prays he
b.) Pry thee
c.) I pray thee
d.) I pray

Discussion Question:
If you were the first senator, would you let Menenius pass? Why or Why not?

**Grammar Question:**
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:

“…My friends, Of whom he's chief…”

a) He’s chief of his friends.
b) My friends, who are the boss of him.
c) The boss of my friends is I.
d) My friends, who he’s in charge of.

“You lie, I tell the truth, now leave.”

**Cell 10**

**Quote:**

[Second Senator]
“...Howsoever you have been his liar... I am one that,
telling true under him, must say, you cannot pass. Therefore, go back…”

[First Senator]
“...You are a Roman, are you?”

[MENENIUS]
“...I would not speak with him till after dinner....I am, as thy general is…”

**Summary:**
The second senator also tells Menenius to go back to Rome. Menenius asks if it is possible to speak to Coriolanus after dinner. The first Senator asks him if he is a Roman. Menenius tells him that he is.

**Reading Comprehension Question:**
What does the Senator ask Menenius?

**Vocabulary Question:**
“...I would not speak with him till after dinner...
In the quote above, the word “till” most closely means
a.) turn over
b.) cultivate
c.) tilt
d.) until

Discussion Question:
If you were Menenius, would you continue to beg the senators to let you see Coriolanus?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“...Has he dined, canst thou tell?...”

a) Can I dine with you?
b) Can you tell me if he has already eaten?
c) Can you tell me where I can find a good place to eat?
d) If it possible to dine with him?

“Just leave already.”
Cell 11

Quote:
[First Senator]
“...Then you should hate Rome, as he does.... prepare for your execution: you are condemned, our general has sworn you out of reprieve and pardon... My general cares not for you. Back, I say, go; lest I let forth your half-pint of blood; back,--that's the utmost of your having: back...”
[MENENIUS]
“...Sirrah, if thy captain knew
I were here, he would use
me with estimation...”
[Second Senator]
“...Come, my captain knows
you not...”

Summary:
Menenius insists that if Coriolanus was present, he would have liked to
speak to him. The first and second senator get increasingly irritated
and tell him to go home.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What does Menenius insist on?

Vocabulary Question:
“...our general has sworn you out of reprieve and pardon...”
In the quote above, the word “reprieve” most closely means
a.) deprivation
b.) respite
c.) hate
d.) sorrow

Discussion Question:
Do you think Menenius is stubborn or just lacks any pride?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the
choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“...No, you are deceived; therefore, back to Rome...”

a) Deceived you are, no, don’t go back to Rome.
b) You are a fool who lives in Rome.
c) No you have been fooled, so, just go back to Rome.
d) Don’t deceive those who live in Rome.

“Cori!! It’s you! Give me a hug!!!”

[CORIOLANUS]
What’s the matter?
[MENENIUS]
O my son, my son! thou art preparing fire for us; look thee, here's water to quench it....I have been blown out of your gates with sighs; and conjure thee to pardon Rome, and thy petitionary countrymen. The good gods assuage thy wrath, and turn the dregs of it upon this varlet= here,--this, who, like a block, hath denied my access to thee...”

Summary:
Coriolanus enters and asks what’s going on. Menenius greets Coriolanus happily. Menenius tries to make peace with Coriolanus and says that the senators prevented him from speaking to Coriolanus.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What is Menenius’ reaction to Coriolanus’ entrance?

Vocabulary Question:
“...The good gods assuage thy wrath...”
In the quote above, the word “assuage” most closely means
a.) pacify
b.) hear
c.) aggravate
d.) discuss

Discussion Question:
What do you predict Coriolanus’ reaction to Menenius’ presence be?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“...behold now presently, and swoon for what's to come upon thee....”

a) Just wait and see what will happen to you.
b) Run away before he comes.
c) Look at it this way, if you stay nothing will happen.
d) I will only help you in the future.
“Go back, but here, take this....”

Cell 13

**Quote:**

[CORIOLANUS]

“...Away! Wife, mother, child, I know not. My affairs Are servanted to others: though I owe My revenge properly, my remission lies In Volscian breasts....Therefore, be gone. Mine ears against your suits are stronger than Your gates against my force. Yet, for I loved thee, Take this along; I writ it for thy sake...would have rent it. Another word, Menenius, I will not hear thee speak...”

[MENENIUS]

“...How! away!”

**Summary:**

Coriolanus also tells Menenius to get lost. He doesn’t want to hear anything coming from his mouth. He hands him a letter and says that although they have a warring relationship, he still took the time to write him the letter.

**Reading Comprehension Question:**

What does Coriolanus tell Menenius?

**Vocabulary Question:**

“...I *writ* it for thy sake...”

In the quote above, the word “writ” most closely means

a.) give
b.) write
c.) wrote
d.) have

**Discussion Question:**
Why do you think Coriolanus wrote Menenius a letter?

**Grammar Question:**
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
"...You keep a constant temper..."

a) Your temper is not that constant.
b) You keep your anger steady.
c) Why are you such a hot-head?
d) Your temper is quite aggressive.

"As you once said to me, GET LOST!"

**Cell 14**

**Quote:**

[MENENIUS]
"...I neither care for the world nor your general ...For you, be that you are, long; and your misery increase with your age! I say to you, as I was said to, Away!"

[First Senator]
"...A noble fellow, I warrant him..."

[Second Senator]
"...The worthy fellow is our general: he's the rock, the oak not to be wind-shaken..."

**Summary:**
After Coriolanus departs, Menenius changes his tone. He begins yelling at the senators and telling them that he doesn’t care about Coriolanus at all. He curses them, saying that he predicts bad things in this future. On this note he departs.

**Reading Comprehension Question:**
What happens after Coriolanus exits?

**Vocabulary Question:**
"...A noble fellow, I warrant him..."
In the quote above, the word “warrant” most closely means
a.) To provide security to
b.) To despise
c.) To invite to dinner
d.) To search for

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think the senators’ opinions changed of Menenius?

**Grammar Question:**
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
"...For such things as you, I can scarce think there's any, ye're so slight..."

a) I cannot even think of anything as low as you are.
b) I can hardly think about anything at the moment.
c) You must help me remember, my memory is slipping.
d) You are the only ones who I can think of.
Coriolanus Ignores Rome
Cell #15

Quote:
Coriolanus: “We will before the walls of Rome tomorrow set down our host. My partner in this action, you must report to the Volscian lords, how plainly I have borne this business.”
Audifius: “Only their ends you have respected; stopp’d your ears against the general suit of Rome; never admitted a private whisper, no, not with such friends that thought them sure of you.”

Summary:
Coriolanus announces that their army will attack Rome tomorrow. Aufidius says that he is surprised that Coriolanus ignored Menenius’ pleas and is proud of him. Coriolanus says that Menenius was the most intimate friend Rome could have sent him, and now he won’t accept any more people from Rome to greet him.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What is Aufidius surprised about?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word borne most closely means:
i) loved
ii) conducted
iii) left
iv) called

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think Coriolanus will give up and not attack Rome anyway?

**Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:**
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“"This last old man, Whom with a crack’d heart I have sent to Rome,
Loved me above the measure of a father;”
a) That old guy loved me more than a father could, the one I just sent to Rome and hurt.
b) That old guy I just hurt and sent to Rome loved me more than a father could.
c) The old guy I just sent to Rome and hurt, loved me more than a father could.
d) That old guy loved me more than a father could, and I just hurt him and sent him to Rome.
Quote:
Coriolanus: “My wife comes foremost; then the honour’d mould wherein this trunk was framed, and in her hand the grandchild to her blood. But out, affection! All bond and privilege of nature, break! ...
There eyes are not the same I wore in Rome.”

Summary:
Virgilia, Volumnnia, young Martius, and Valeria enters. Coriolanus talks about how his wife makes him warm in the heart and so does the sight of his mother and son. But then he says that he has, however, a new perspective on life, and it does not include them.

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Coriolanus says “I melt, and am not of stronger earth than others” this line shows his...
  i) doubtfulness
  ii) anger
  iii) boredom
  iv) forgetfulness

Reading Comprehension Question:
What does Coriolanus’ wife do to his heart?
**Vocabulary Question:**
In the quote above the word *mould* most closely means:
i) dung
ii) curve
iii) shape
iv) clay

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think Coriolanus should just give in and not attack Rome?
Coriolanus says ‘Sorry’ to Virgilia
Cell #17

**Quote:**
Coriolanus: “Forgive my tyranny; but do not say for that ‘Forgive our Romans.’ O, a kiss long as my exile, sweet as my revenge!

... I prate, and the most noble mother of the world.”

**Summary:**
Virgilia says Coriolanus’ views have changed because his family looks sad now. Coriolanus kneels as he asks for forgiveness for his rudeness, but does not want to give up to Rome.

**Reading Comprehension Question:**
Why does Coriolanus kneel?

**Vocabulary Question:**
In the quote above the word *prate* most closely means:
  i) a box
  ii) squeal
  iii) a music note
  iv) chatter

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think Coriolanus’ family will forgive him?
Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“The sorrow that delivers us thus changed makes you think so.”
 a) It’s our sadness that makes you think we’ve changed.
b) Its our sadness that makes you think we’ve changed.
c) It’s the sadness we show that makes you think we’re changed.
d) Its the sadness we show that makes you think we’re changed.
Quote:
Volumnia: “O, stand up blest!
...
I kneel before thee;”
Coriolanus: “What is this? Your knees to me?”

Summary:
Volumnia tells Coriolanus to stand up, and she then kneels. Coriolanus is very surprised, and Volumnia says that she must respect him because he’s a great warrior.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What does Volumnia tell Coriolanus to do?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word blest most closely means:
i) gangly one
ii) earthly one
iii) holy one
iv) stupid one

Discussion Question:
Why does Volumnia kneel to Coriolanus?
Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“What is this? Your knees to me?”
a) Why are you doing? What are you kneeling?
b) What are you diong, why are you kneeling?
c) What are you doing? Why are you kneeling?
d) What are you doing, why are you kneeling?
Volumnia Thinks Coriolanus Does Not Love His Family

Quote:
Volumnia: “This is a poor epitome of yours, which by the interpretation of full time may show like all yourself.”

Summary:
Volumnia asks who the people surrounding her are, and Coriolanus answers. Volumnia then says that they’re all there for him.

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Coriolanus talks to Volumnia about Valeria and says, “The moon of Rome, chaste as the icicle that’s curdied by the frost from purest snow and hangs on Dian’s temple:” the expression “chaste as the icicle” is an example of the literary device...

i) personification
ii) metaphor
iii) simile
iv) hyperbole

Reading Comprehension Question:
Why does Volumnia ask Coriolanus who the people around her are?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word epitome most closely means:

i) an emerald stone
ii) a tomato’s seeds
iii) a dog’s tongue
iv) a representative model

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think what Volumnius did have any affect on Coriolanus?
Volumnius and the Others Guilt Coriolanus Into Giving In
Cell #20

**Quote:**
Volumnia: “O, no more, no more!”
Coriolanus: “we’ll hear nought from Rome in private. Your request?”

**Summary:**
Coriolanus asks Volumnia to stop trying to guilt him, and Volumnius cries about how she can’t handle his insensitive attitude. Coriolanus says that he will not hear anything from Rome privately.

**Reading Comprehension Question:**
What does Volumnia say that she can’t handle from Coriolanus?

**Vocabulary Question:**
In the quote above the word *nought* most closely means:
i) no
ii) nothing
iii) all
iv) yes

**Discussion Question:**
Why do you think Coriolanus says that he will not hear anything from Rome in private?
Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“I beseech you, peace:”
a) Please be quiet!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
b) Please be quiet.
c) Please, be quiet.
d) Please. Be quiet.
Volumnia’s Speech
Cell #21

Quote:
Volumnius: “though we had our wish, which side should win: for either thou must, as a foreign recreant, be led with menacles thorough our streets.”

Summary:
Volumnia says that if either Rome or the Volscians win, he’ll lose. That’s because if he wins, he’ll have triumphed over his native country, and if he loses, he’ll be led throughout the city in shame. Volumnia also says that if he does not give in, she’ll kill herself and leave her body on the road for Coriolanus to trample over with his army. Virgilia says that she will do the same, and young Martius says that he’ll wait until he’s bigger, and then kill Coriolanus.

Literary Device Question:
In the following line, when Volumnia tells Coriolanus “Make our eyes flow with joy, hearts dance with comforts,” the expression “hearts dance” is an example of the literary device...
i) personification
ii) metaphor
iii) catachresis
iv) oxymoron

Reading Comprehension Question:
What does young Martius say he’ll do to Coriolanus when he grows up?
**Vocabulary Question:**
In the quote above the word *recreant* most closely means:
i) a stupid person
ii) an unfaithful person
iii) a caring person
iv) a cowardly person

**Discussion Question:**
Why would young Martius kill his father, instead of killing himself?
**Quote:**
Coriolanus: “I have sat too long.”
Volumnia: “Speak to me, son: thou has affected the fine strains of honour, to imitate the graces of the gods; to tear with thunder the wide cheeks o’ the air, and yet to charge thy sulphur with a bolt that should but rive an oak.”

**Summary:**
Coriolanus gets up to leave, and Volumnius stops him, and tells him about how she thinks that he cares more for vengeance then his family.

**Literary Device Question:**
In the following line, when Volumnia says to Coriolanus in her speech, “To his surname Coriolanus ‘longs more pride than pity to our prayers.” this is an example of the literary device...
i) oxymoron
ii) personification
iii) metaphor
iv) simile

**Reading Comprehension Question:**
What does Volumnia think about Coriolanus?
**Vocabulary Question:**
In the quote above the word *rive* most closely means:
i) to forgive
ii) to hurt
iii) to break apart
iv) to be sorry for

**Discussion Question:**
Do you think Coriolanus is going to give in after this speech Volumnius just gave?
Coriolanus Forgives Rome and his Family
Cell #23

Quote:
Coriolanus: “O my mother, mother! O! You have won a happy victory to Rome;...
Most dangerously you have with him prevailed,“

Summary:
Coriolanus holds his mother by the hand, and cries out that he’s sorry and that he’ll not attack Rome. He asks Audifius if he was moved, and Audifius says he was moved.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What does Coriolanus cry out to his mother?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word prevailed most closely means:
i) to have bled
ii) to have triumphed
iii) to have concealed
iv) to have hovered

Discussion Question:
Do you think that Audifius will do something about this?

Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“I’ll frame convenient peace.”
a) I’ll be peaceful.
b) I’ll be peaceful.
c) I’ll be peaceful.
d) I’ll be peaceful
Aufidius Is to Deceive Coriolanus

Quote:
Aufidius: “At difference in thee: out of that I’ll work myself a former fortune.”
Coriolanus (to Volumnia, Virgilia, & c): “Come, enter with us. Ladies, you deserve to have a temple built you: all the swords in Italy, and her confederate arms, could not have made this peace.”

Summary:
Aufidius talks aside as everyone is happy that he will now assume the plan he had originally thought of, to kill Coriolanus for his disloyalty to the Volscians. Coriolanus tells the ladies and the rest that the two deserve a great monument in honor of them.

Reading Comprehension Question:
Why does Aufidius want to kill Coriolanus?

Vocabulary Question:
In the quote above the word confederate most closely means:
i) useful
ii) useless
iii) allied
iv) duplicated

Discussion Question:
Do you think Coriolanus will be killed later by Audifius?
Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:
“I am glad thou has set thy mercy and thy honour at difference in thee:”

a) I’m happy you’re so honourable.
b) Im happy you’re so honourable.
c) I’m Happy your so honourable.
d) I’m happy your so honourable.
Scene IV. Rome. A Public Place. This is where all the great plays take place. Cell #25

MENENIUS

See you yond coign o' the Capitol, yond corner-stone?

SICINIUS

Why, what of that?

MENENIUS

If it be possible for you to displace it with your little finger, there is some hope the ladies of Rome, especially his mother, may prevail with him.

In Rome, a resigned Menenius, unaware of what has just happened, tells Sicinius that all is lost and that the tribunes have doomed their city with their folly.

What did Menenius tell Sicinius?

In the quote above, the word [coign] most nearly means:

a. coin  
b. keystone  
c. apprentice  
d. corselet

If you were Sicinius, would you believe what Menenius is telling you?
But I say there is no hope in't: our throats are sentenced and stay upon execution.

a. But I say there is no hope int; our throats are sentenced and stay upon execution.
b. But I say there is no hope in't; our throats are sentenced, and stay upon execution.
c. But I say there is no hope in't. Our throats are sentenced and stay upon execution.
d. But I say there is no hope in't: our throats are sentenced, and stay upon execution.
e. Correct as is.
Scene IV. Rome. A Public Place. The trashcan of doom Cell #26

A messenger arrives with news that Volumnia and the women have succeeded in their mission and that Rome is saved.

What news does the messenger bring?

In the quote above, the word [plebeians] most closely means:

   a. Great expectations
   b. Foolish tribune
   c. Snarling ladies
   d. Common people

How does Volumnia succeeding affect Sicinius?

And hale him up and down all swearing if the Roman ladies bring not comfort home, they'll give him death by inches.

   a. And hale him up and down, all swearing, if the Roman ladies bring not comfort home they'll give him death by inches.
   b. And hale him up and down, all swearing; if the Roman ladies bring not comfort home, they'll give him death by inches.
c. And hale him up and down, all swearing--if the Roman ladies bring not comfort home--they'll give him death by inches.
d. And hale him up and down, all swearing, if the Roman ladies bring not comfort home, they'll give him death by inches.
e. Correct as is
Scene IV. Rome. A Public Place. Who is whom again? Cell #27

SICINIUS

What's the news?

Second Messenger

Good news, good news; the ladies have prevail'd,
The Volscians are dislodged, and Marcius gone:
A merrier day did never yet greet Rome,
No, not the expulsion of the Tarquins.

Another messenger approaches and tells Sicinus the same thing. Sicinius questions the messenger, and the messenger says he's telling the truth.

What has happened to Rome?

In the quote above, the word [dislodged] most nearly means:

a. Expelled from a stronghold
b. Expected by bears
c. removed from a cabin
d. defeated by ostrich

Why are the Romans celebrating?

Friend, art thou certain this is true: is it most certain?

a. Friend, art thou certain this is true; is it most certain?
b. Friend, art thou certain this is true, is it most certain?
c. Friend, art thou certain this is true. Is it most certain?
d. Friend, art thou certain this is true? is it most certain?
e. Correct as is
Scene IV. Rome. A Public Place. the tie gives it away Cell #28

MENENIUS

This is good news:
I will go meet the ladies.

Menenius wants to go meet Volumnia and praise her. He wants every Roman to pay respects to her.

Where does Menenius want to go?

I'd not have given a doit. Hark, how they joy!

In the quote above, the word [doit] most closely means:

a. celebration
b. jewelry
c. an object of small value
d. idea

Why does Menenius believe that everyone should pay respects to Volumnia?

This Volumnia is worth of consuls, senators, patricians, a city full; of tribunes, such as you, a sea and land full.

a. This Volumnia is worth of consuls – senators – patricians - a city full: of tribunes, such as you, a sea and land full.
b. This Volumnia is worth of consuls, senators, patricians; a city full; of tribunes, such as you, a sea and land full.
c. This Volumnia is worth of consuls, senators: patricians; a city full; of tribunes, such as you, a sea and land full.

d. This Volumnia is worth of consuls; senators, patricians, a city full: of tribunes, such as you, a sea and land full.

e. Correct as is
Scene IV. Rome. A Public Place. Rome never looked so ancient
Cell #29

SICINIUS

They are near the city?

Second Messenger

Almost at point to enter.

SICINIUS

We will meet them,  
And help the joy.

The music is still playing, and Sicinius and the Second Messenger are still speaking. Sicinius asks where Volumnia, Virgilia, and Valeria are and the Second messenger says that they are almost entering the city.

Where is Volumnia and company?

First, the gods bless you for your tidings

In the quote above, the word [tidings] most closely means:

a. meeting  
b. pointing  
c. entering  
d. carrying along
Why does Sicinius ask the Second Messenger where Volumnia and company are?

First: the gods bless you for your tidings; next, accept my thankfulness.

a. First, the gods bless you for your tidings; next, accept my thankfulness.

b. First, the gods bless you for your tidings; next: accept my thankfulness.

c. First, the gods bless you for your tidings; next accept my thankfulness.

d. First, the gods bless you for your tidings; next; accept my thankfulness.

e. Correct as is
SCENE V. The same. A street near the gate. The gate is back there

Cell #30

First Senator

Behold our patroness, the life of Rome!

The Romans burst into celebration and welcome Volumnia home as the savior of her city. The senator praises Volumnia.

What does the senator say?

And make triumphant fires; strew flowers before them:

In the quote above, the word [strew] most closely means:

a. scatter
b. burn
c. collect
d. sacrifice

Do you believe that Volumnia deserves this celebration?

Call all your tribes together, praise the gods, and make triumphant fires; strew flowers before them: unshout the noise that banish'd Marcius, repeal him with the welcome of his mother; cry 'Welcome, ladies, welcome!'
a. Call all your tribes together praise the gods, and make triumphant fires; strew flowers before them: unshout the noise that banish'd Marcius repeal him with the welcome of his mother; cry 'Welcome, ladies, welcome!'

b. Call all your tribes together, praise the gods, and make triumphant fires: strew flowers before them: unshout the noise that banish'd Marcius, repeal him with the welcome of his mother: cry 'Welcome, ladies, welcome!'

c. Call all your tribes together, praise the gods, and make triumphant fires; strew flowers before them; unshout the noise that banish'd Marcius; repeal him with the welcome of his mother; cry 'Welcome, ladies, welcome!'

d. Call all your tribes together praise the gods; and make triumphant fires; strew flowers before them; unshout the noise that banish'd Marcius: repeal him with the welcome of his mother: cry 'Welcome, ladies, welcome!'

e. Correct as is
SCENE VI. Antium. A public place. the squiggle looks funny Cell #31

AUFIDIUUS

    Even so
    As with a man by his own alms empoison'd,
    And with his charity slain.

In the Volscian city of Antium, Aufidius and a band of conspirators prepare to murder the recently returning Coriolanus.

Who are preparing to murder Coriolanus?

In the quote above the word [empoison'd] most nearly means:

    a. Embittered by cruelty
    b. confined within cave
    c. impounded by tow
    d. infested with charity
    e. delivered to a lifter

Why would Aufidius and his conspirators want to kill Coriolanus?

Him I accuse the city ports by this hath enter'd and intends to appear before the people, hoping to purge herself with words: dispatch.

    a. Him I accuse the city ports by this hath enter'd and intends to appear before the people; hoping to purge herself with words: dispatch.
b. Him I accuse the city ports by this hath enter'd and intends to appear before the people, hoping to purge herself with words. Dispatch.

c. Him I accuse the city ports by this hath enter'd and intends to appear before the people, hoping to purge herself with words; dispatch.

d. Him I accuse the city ports by this hath enter'd and intends to appear before the people hoping to purge herself with words dispatch.

e. Correct as is
Third Conspirator

The people will remain uncertain whilst
’Twixt you there's difference; but the fall of either
Makes the survivor heir of all.

Aufidius denounces Coriolanus, accusing him of betraying the Volscian army by giving in to the Roman women and failing to take Rome.

What does Aufidius accuse Coriolanus of?

In the quote above, the chiefly British word [whilst] most closely means:

a. but
b. when
c. where
d. while

Do you believe that Aufidius has the right to accuse Coriolanus of betrayal?
I know it: and my pretext to strike at him admits a good construction.

a. I know it. And my pretext to strike at him admits a good construction.
b. I know it; and my pretext to strike at him admits, a good construction.
c. I know it; and my pretext to strike at him admits; a good construction.
d. I know it: and my pretext to strike at him admits; a good construction.
e. Correct as is
SCENE VI. Antium. A public place. What are they doing? Cell #33

AUFIDUS

There was it:
For which my sinews shall be stretch’d upon him.
At a few drops of women's rheum, which are
As cheap as lies, he sold the blood and labour
Of our great action: therefore shall he die,
And I'll renew me in his fall. But, hark!

Aufidius and the conspirators continue to speak about Coriolanus and what they have done for him. Audifius says that he took him in as a servant and let him make choices. He continues by saying that Coriolanus must die and that he will feel better after he is dead.

What do the conspirators talk about?

In the quote above, the word [sinews] most closely means:

a. Bones, wheels
b. Tendons, muscles
c. close relations, infections
d. skin, chaff

Do you think that Aufidius will feel better after killing Coriolanus?

To do myself this wrong; till. at the last; I seem’d his follower--not partner, and he waged me with his countenance, as if I had been mercenary.
a. To do myself this wrong: till, at the last; I seem'd his follower: not partner, and he waged me with his countenance, as if I had been mercenary.

b. To do myself this wrong: till, at the last, I seem'd his follower, not partner, and he waged me with his countenance, as if I had been mercenary.

c. To do myself this wrong: till, at the last, I seem'd his follower, not partner; and he waged me with his countenance: as if I had been mercenary.

d. To do myself this wrong: till, at the last; I seem'd his follower: not partner; and he waged me with his countenance; as if I had been mercenary.

e. Correct as is
Act V scene vi Cell#34 that girl is she

Second Conspirator
Most noble sir,
If you do hold the same intent wherein
You wish'd us parties, we'll deliver you
Of your great danger.
AUFIDIUS
Sir, I cannot tell:
We must proceed as we do find the people.
Third Conspirator
The people will remain uncertain whilst
'Twixt you there's difference; but the fall of either
Makes the survivor heir of all.
AUFIDIUS I know it;
And my pretext to strike at him admits
A good construction. I raised him, and I pawn'd
Mine honour for his truth: who being so heighten'd,
He water'd his new plants with dews of flattery,
Seducing so my friends; and, to this end,
He bow'd his nature, never known before
But to be rough, unswayable and free.

Summary: Aufidius meets with three conspirators against Coriolanus. They plan to dispose of Coriolanus, who is going to be given a hero’s welcome by the people of the city. Aufidius and the conspirators rationalize their actions by reminding themselves of how Coriolanus has taken advantage of them.

Reading comprehension: Why does Aufidius want to get rid of Coriolanus?
Vocabulary: in the quote, “And my pretext to strike at him admits A good construction,” the word *pretext* most closely means
a. something written before the main text  
b. phony excuse  
c. funeral for a villain  
d. reason, Jack, your reason

Discussion: If you were in Aufidius’ situation, how would you feel towards Coriolanus?

What is the best contemporary paraphrase for the quote, “Even so As with a man by his own alms empoison'd, And with his charity slain.”?

a. I am as good as a man who’s been ruined by his charity can be.  
b. Being ruined by my charity, I am good.  
c. I am as good as a man whose been ruined by his charity can by.  
d. I am as good as a man who has been ruined by his charity can be.
“Go back to where you came from!!!!”

Cell 35

Quote:
[CORIOLANUS]
“...Hail, lords... You are to know That prosperously I have attempted and
With bloody passage led your wars even to The gates of Rome. Our spoils we have brought home...We have made peaceWith no less honour to the Antiates Than shame to the Romans: and we here deliver...Traitor! how now...Cut me to pieces, Volsces; men and lads...Boy! false hound...I Flutter'd your Volscians in Corioli: Alone I did it. Boy!”

[AUFIDIUS]
“...Read it not, noble lords; But tell the traitor, in the high'st degree He hath abused your powers...You lords and heads o' the state, perfidiously He has betray'd your business, and given up...He whined and roar'd away your victory, That pages blush'd at him and men of heart Look'd wondering each at other...:

[All Conspirators]
“...Let him die for't...”

[All The People]
“'Tear him to pieces...:”

[Second Lord]
“...Peace, ho! no outrage: peace! The man is noble and his fame folds-in... His last offences to us Shall have judicious hearing...Aufidius ....Thou hast done a deed whereat valour will weep...”

[All Conspirators]
“Kill, kill, kill, kill, kill him!”

[Third Lord]
“...Tread not upon him. Masters all, be quiet; Put up your swords...”

[AUFIDIUS]
“....My rage is gone; And I am struck with sorrow. Take him up. Help, three o' the chiepest soldiers; I'll be one... Yet he shall have a noble memory. Assist...”

Summary:
Coriolanus enters and greets Aufidius. He declares that until they reached the gates of Rome, he has led the Volscians successfully in many wars. He then says that he has a peace treaty. Aufidius holds back the lords from reading the treaty and charges Coriolanus of treachery and abuse of power. Coriolanus calls Aufidius a liar and says something insulting about Aufidius‘ war at Corioli. The citizens, provoked by Aufidius’ conspirators, demand Coriolanus’ death. The lords try to contain order, and say that Coriolanus should have a fair trial. Aufidius and the conspirators rush over to Coriolanus and kill him. The lords scold Aufidius. Aufidius claims that he did it for the benefit of the Volscian state. He begs the lords to be called to the Senate, where after making a statement he will submit to their criticisms as a faithful servant. The lords order a funeral for Coriolanus, honoring him as a heroic warrior. Aufidius helps carry Coriolanus’ body away.

Reading Comprehension Question:
What do Aufidius and the conspirators do to Coriolanus?

Vocabulary Question:
“...Thou hast done a deed whereat valour will weep...”
In the quote above, the word “valour” most closely means
a.) velvet clothes
b.) bravery
c.) anger
d.) love

Discussion Question:
How sorry do you think Aufidius is at the end of the play?

Grammar Question:
Consider the following sentence from the text and decide which of the choices below is the best contemporary paraphrase:

“...And trouble not the peace...”
a) Peace, man.
b) Don’t cause trouble.
c) You’re going to get in trouble with peace.
d) The peace is troubling.