

THE ASSASSINATION OF JULIUS CAESAR



In January of 49 BC, Julius Caesar led his army across the Rubicon River in Northern Italy and plunged the Roman Republic into civil war. Caesar's rival, Pompey, fled to Greece. Within three months Caesar controlled the entire Italian peninsula and in Spain had defeated the legions loyal to Pompey.

Caesar now pursued Pompey to Greece. Although outnumbered, Caesar crushed the forces of his enemy but not before Pompey escaped to Egypt. Following Pompey to Egypt, Caesar was presented with his rival's severed head as a token of friendship. Before leaving the region, Caesar established Cleopatra as his surrogate ruler of Egypt.

Caesar defeated his remaining rivals in North Africa in 47 BC and returned to Rome with his authority firmly established. Caesar continued to consolidate his power and in February 44 BC, he declared himself dictator for life. This act, along with his continual effort to adorn himself with the trappings of power, turned many in the Senate against him. Sixty members of the Senate concluded that the only resolution to the problem was to assassinate Caesar.

THE ASSASSINATION OF JULIUS CAESAR QUESTIONS

1. Julius Caesar crossing the Rubicon River led to what major happening?

2. Who fled to Greece?

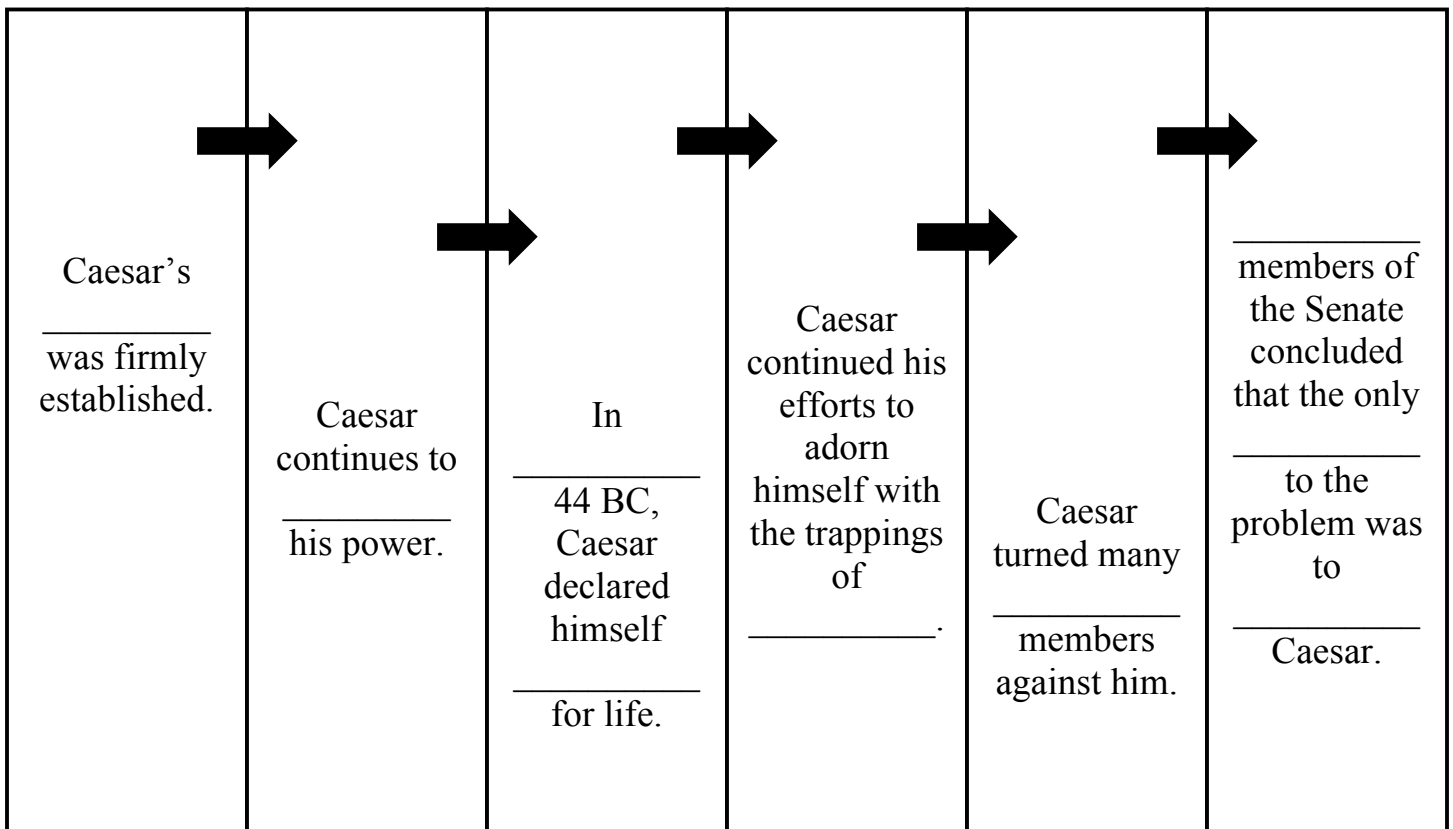
3. After fighting for three months, what did Caesar control?

4. What occurred in Spain?

5. Where did Pompey escape to after his defeat in Greece?

6. Who did Caesar establish as his surrogate ruler in Egypt?

7. Complete the timeline with the events occurring after Caesar returns to Rome:



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