

Tma02



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Thalia Brown Y97946X Assignment 02 Alternative Question Write an answer to either Part 1 OR Part 2 of Assignment 01, using the essay question and assignment notes in the Assignment Booklet.

Submit this together with a 200-word reflective commentary. Your reflective commentary should address how you went about the task of writing the essay, what you found challenging, and what you would do differently next time.

Part 1 Cleopatra Read the following passage carefully at least twice. What does it tell us about Plutarch's view of the relationship between Anthony and Cleopatra? The whole tone of this passage gives the impression of Cleopatra being in charge of Antony and almost treating him like a pet giving him alternately praise and humiliating him and being with him for every pursuit, even those which would have been seen as predominantly male pastimes. Cleopatra is shown to be a very dominant figure, being in control of his movements and knowing when Antony is trying to fool her. Right at the start of the passage we see Cleopatra being shown as Anthony's captor, in charge of Antony. Cleopatra "kept him in constant tutelage, and released him neither night nor day." (Plutarch AA100 Assignment booklet, 2008, P.

18). The use of the word tutelage almost suggests that Anthony is being cared for by and learning from Cleopatra and the word release suggests that she is holding him captive. This passage also shows us that according to Plutarch Cleopatra was a very capable woman and is shown as being Anthony's equal rather than a normal subservient woman. Cleopatra "played dice with him, drank with him, hunted with him" (Plutarch AA 100 Assignment booklet, 2008, P. 18); these would not normally be past times for

women in this time and also strengthened to me the idea that Cleopatra was with him all of the time.

(It appears as though Cleopatra would not even let Anthony go out for a drink on his own as she ??? would go with him on his round of mad follies” (Plutarch AA100 assignment booklet, 2008, page 18). Plutarch goes on to show us that if Antony goes out in common folk garb she would also do this and go round with him; seeing him in some cases fight: ??? he always reaped a harvest of abuse, and often of blows??? (Plutarch AA100 assignment booklet, 2008, page 18). Plutarch also tells us that Cleopatra could humiliate Antony in public, which shows she is in charge of events. While she was “pretending to admire her lovers skill” (Plutarch AA100 assignment booklet, 2008, P. 18) at fishing she was plotting to humiliate him with a “salted Pontiac herring” (Plutarch AA100 assignment booklet, 2008, P. 18) which she had ordered to be put on the end of the line.

According to Plutarch Antony was trying to impress Cleopatra by cheating and asking his people to put fish on his line; Cleopatra, however, got there first. In Plutarch's view this was done so that Cleopatra could tell him what he needed to be doing instead of fishing. He should not be fishing but being an emperor and hunt “cities, realms and continents” instead (Plutarch AA100 assignment booklet, 2008, P. 18) This all shows, that in Plutarch's view, that Cleopatra is a very capable woman, knowing exactly what she wants. Although he uses the word ??? lover??? once in the passage the overall tone is one of Cleopatra being his equal in all pastimes and being Antony's captor being in control of all his actions. Bibliography needed Part 2 Reflective Commentary This assignment proved to be very interesting once I got it

started. The passage by Plutarch is very evocative and shows a very definite view of Cleopatra and her relationship with Anthony.

I went about the essay by starting to see the overall tone of the piece and which particular quotes within the piece would be good to explain what I thought was the tone. I decided that I wanted to have for definite quotes to show the different sides of Cleopatra and Anthonys relationship as shown by Plutarch. Once I had those definite quotes in mind I went on to point out which particular mood I wanted to convey, use the quote and explain how this quote showed what I wanted to say. The thing I found most challenging was limiting my essay to the specific quotes as there were an awful lot more points I could have used. If I had to do the essay again I would concentrate more on the humiliation which Plutarch showed rather than the way I have portrayed Cleopatra as the strong woman capturing Anthony for her own pleasure.