

Exemplar for Internal Achievement Standard Classical Studies Level 3

This exemplar supports assessment against:

Achievement Standard 91397

Demonstrate understanding of significant idealogy(ies) in the classical world

An annotated exemplar is an extract of student evidence, with a commentary, to explain key aspects of the standard. It assists teachers to make assessment judgements at the grade boundaries.

New Zealand Qualifications Authority

To support internal assessment

Grade Boundary: Low Excellence

1. For Excellence, the student needs to demonstrate perceptive understanding of significant ideology(ies) in the classical world.

This is an extract from a larger submission of work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence of specific relevance.

The student demonstrates perceptive understanding of the political ideology of the Augustan principate. The student uses primary source evidence which is specifically relevant to the points made (1).

The student uses literary and artistic evidence in the response. The student analyses a range of aspects (2) – military, political in terms of the relationship with the senate and the limitation of military accolades as well as the ways in which Augustus' political ideology was propagated during the principate. The student shows insight into the political ideology (3).

Reasons for similarities and differences in the opinions held by the father and son are explored in the dialogue. The points made which explore the cultural expectations of Romans and codes of behaviour for Republicans before the principate during Octavian's rise to power are insightful.

For a more secure Excellence, the student could:

- consider primary source evidence which does not favour Augustus to get a more balanced response
- show discernment regarding limitations of sources of evidence.

Student 1: Low Excellence

Son: What a great man he was, Jupiter's blessing upon Rome, a true hero of the Republic!

Father: A hero of the Republic? Son do you not see, Augustus created the Republic's demise.

Son: What strange musings have you produced now? It is common knowledge that Augustus was the saviour of the Republic.

Father: Yes but if you observe the facts, look deeper you will see that his actions were very unrepublican.

- Son: How so? Augustus himself states in *The Deeds of the Divine Augustus*, "In my nineteenth year, at my own initiative and at my own expense, I raised an army with which I championed the liberty of the Republic".
- Father: You failed to mention the fact that Augustus returned as the victor of Actium with an army of 50 legions. With such a force at his disposal, Rome would have no choice but to submit. Not long after this he was already being granted the consulship on numerous following years. Augustus was most certainly seeking power.

Son: If Augustus was out for power than why in Res Gestae, does he also state "In my 6th and 7th consulship i transferred the republic from my power to the dominion of the Senate and people of Rome" (1). What alternate motives could he possibly have had that would cause his voluntarily step down from his position as Princeps Senatus?

Father: Augustus' supposed 'resignation' was just a clever scheme to fool naive romans such as yourself. These foolish Romans were also the ones that foolishly protested against his resignation. Don't you see it was all a ploy to get more power without seeming as though he wanted it. This new power takes its form as the First settlement where Augustus is given Proconsular imperium over Gaul, Spain, Syria and Egypt for a period of ten years, not to mention that all theses provinces held the majority of the Roman legions. If you cared to note the fact that he held vastly greater administrative power after he made that 'gamble' then before it, you would see that it was his intention all along.

- Son: If Augustus was indeed looking for power, he would not gamble all that he had accomplished on such a small hope of power. The public and the senate could easily have accepted his abdication, how was he to know that the people would call on him.
 - Father: Augustus used propaganda to ensure a vast base of support leading up to his renunciation in 27BC. In 29BC he held a triple triumph as well as presenting each citizen with 400 sesterces. In 28 B.C. he had restored
- and constructed 82 temples in honour of the gods. Augustus' divi filius was on every coin, he even promoted himself in the Aeneid where Virgil states in book 6 that Augustus was to "restore a better age of gold". An example of Augustus' propaganda stands right before us aswell as everywher else in Rome, notice how in this statue, Augustus' face looks youthful. People seem to raise him as an immortal! The people loved him, and
- thus was confident they would offer him even more power to keep him as our leader. Cassius Dio himself states that Augustus wanted his return to seem "voluntarily by the people, so he would not have compelled them", and that he only resigned "having prepared the most reliable senators". The rearrangement of the senate list in 28BC was probably not a simple tweak but more likely him choosing the most loyal senators. But even with all this propaganda on his side he still does not allow any noble person to hold a Triumph, he even stopped Marcus Licinius Crassus the Younger from holding a triumph and stopped him being awarded the
- Spolia Opima in order to downplay the great generals success so that there could be no competition for his rule over Rome.
- Son: We needed Augustus, his presence prevented a power vacuum, his leadership therefore prevented civil war. Had Augustus not been there, it would have been like the time Caesar was assasinated with people like Marc Antony trying occupy the new and available positions of power.

- Father: Civil war? Augustus had already partook in the Civil Wars; The battle of Phillipi and The Battle against

 Sextus Pompeius, that doesn't sound very Republican does it, he even states in Res Gestae that "I often waged war both foreign and civil". Civil War leads to the deaths of Republicans, how can that be seen as republican.

 Not to mention the fact that he raised his army without imperium, directly violating the Cursus Honorum.
- Son: Don't you see he did it for the good of the republic, I will repeat the line from the Res Gestae- "I raised an army with which I championed the liberty of the republic". Not only that. The senate legalised Augustus' raising of the army (44BC) when they passed the Senatus Consultum Ultimum(43BC). Cassius Dio tells us that Augustus did not take any power that was without precedence. Compare Augustus to Marius, who held the consulship for an unprecedented seven times, or Sulla, who marched on Rome in 88BC and signed hundreds of Romans to death in his prescriptions. Compared to these men Augustus appears much more Republican. Even Pompey had Proconsular Imperium Maius during his time in the east. Also, take Augustus' Father Julius Caesar for instance, he became dictator for life, marched on Rome and held the senate in his hands. Augustus effectively cooperates with the senate. Besides that, the battles he fought were righteous ones, against traitorous anti-republicans. Sextus was a pirate, an enemy of the Republic and Mark Antony was a traitorous Egyptian lover who would give Rome to Egypt if he had his way.

Father: Yes precedences were set, but too what extent? It is true Pompey once had Proconsular imperium Maius but this was only in the East and it ended when he crossed the promerium where Augustus' continued. Augustus held the vast expanses of Gaul, Spain, Illyria, Galatia, Cilicia, Syria and for five and and an additional ten years. This is most certainly unrepublican.

Son: you are wrong Father, Augustus was acting to please both the people and the senate. By completeing his proconsular duties he was both fulfilling the peoples wishes of him by adminastrating in the Roman Government, and pleasing the senate by managing foreign affairs in Gaul, Spain, Illyria etc. Additionally, his absence also allowed other nobles to then stand for consul.

Grade Boundary: High Merit 2. For Merit, the student needs to demonstrate in-depth understanding of significant ideology(ies) in the classical world. This is an extract from a larger piece of student work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence of specific relevance. The student demonstrates in-depth understanding of the political ideology of the Augustan principate. Throughout the response, there is use of primary source evidence of specific relevance to support the points made (1). A range of aspects of Augustus' political ideology, constitutional reform, propaganda in art and literature and military reform are covered (2). There are instances where the student shows some insight into the political ideology (3), but these lack sufficient development to meet the criteria for Excellence. The points made regarding Augustus' relationship with other power figures establish a theme, but this would need further development. To reach Excellence, the student could: Develop reasons for similarities and differences in the opinions held by the father and son in the dialogue More firmly establish themes and patterns in the political ideology of Augustus Identify cultural expectations and codes of behaviour to demonstrate a perceptive understanding of the political ideology Show discernment regarding the limitations of sources of evidence.

Son: "look at the amazing things that Augustus has done father, he has restored the republic to a glory that it has never reached before, he is a true hero of the republic."

Student 2: High Merit

Father: "I disagree with that statement son. Augustus did not restore of the republic. In fact, he was the one who destroyed it with his political dominance over Rome."

Son: "Father how can you say such a thing. It is widely known by both the people and the senate that he restored the republic."

- Father: "My deluded son. How is the republic restored when Augustus holds supreme power. Tacitus tells us that Augustus seduced the army with bonuses, the citizens with cheap food and all with the gift of peace, Tacitus also tells us that none had ever seen
- truly republican government because "war and judicial murder had disposed of all men of spirit". Tell me son, what true republican remains alive today to challenge the power of
- Caesar? After Augustus' first sett none left, great men such as Cicero and Brutus had been killed or prescribed by Augustus, this coupled with the three revisions of the senate allowed Augustus to further cull any future opposition. The so called republic that he restored is now corrupt with bribery as all the senators are bleating for Augustus' good g to absolute rule then partake in another civil war, so tell me how Augustus can rightfully claim to have restored the republic when the monopoly of power is obviously in his hands?"
 - Son: "I disagree father, Augustus was not the one responsible for the prescriptions of those republicans, was it not Antony who held a hatred for Cicero and his Philippics because it caused him to be hated by the Roman people, I say it was him and the
- disgraceful Lepidus that were the culprits with Augustus unable to stop them. Velleius even states that Antony deprive the life of both Decimus Brutus and Sextus Pompey. On the topic of supreme power, Augustus even states in Res Gestae that in his sixth and seventh consulship (27/26 BC) he returned the power of the republic from his own hands to the people of Rome, can't you see that this is a direct step away from the powers which Caesar held in 44 BC, it was the people and senate of Rome who chose to give
- which Caesar held in 44 BC, it was the people and senate of Rome who chose to give the power back to Augustus, how can this been seen as un-republican."

Father: "My son you must look past the false propaganda that supports Caesar and look into what happened behind the scenes. Cassius Dio tells us that Augustus prepared his most reliable senators before he gave away his power back to the people of Rome. Don't you see himself so well that there was almost no chance of him losing his power, of course the senate and people gave back his power with all the propaganda that supports him? His head and great deeds are depicted on the coins that we use every day to buy and trade goods, he is hailed as son of the mighty Caesar who was raised as a god (in 43 BC). We have constantly heard about how he rid the sea of pirates and protected Rome from the tyranny of Antony, of which both were disgraceful civil wars with our own people. Although I admit most great men have had some propaganda to further their careers, the extent of Augustus' propaganda literature to further his political ambitions. Look at the Aeneid. Virgil writes In book 6 that Augustus will extend the dominion or Rome beyond the Garamantians and the Indians and how even Herakles did not traverse as much earth, he also likens himself to the past heros of Rome on the Ara

Pacis. How can this be seen as anything but a way to guarantee that the senate will give him back the power he held and more? Also, look at the statues that portray his youth, such as the Prima Porta Augustus, but fail to show how he has aged over the years; they

- seem to almost raise Augustus as an immortal. But even with all this propaganda on his side he still does not allow any noble person to hold a Triumph, he even stopped Marcus
- Depint a licinius Crassus the Younger from holding a triumph when he was awarded the Spolia Opima in order to downplay the great generals success so that there could be no competition for his rule over Rome. You take too much from the words of Augustus himself, do you not see how his Res Gestae is biased towards his own glory. Have you not also noticed that he fails to tell us how he abused the Cursus Honorum by illegally
- raising an army and giving himself powers which are unheard of, such as those over the provinces and the Proconsular Imperium Maius. These powers that he held are unrepublican in themselves."

Grade Boundary: Low Merit 3. For Merit, the student needs to demonstrate in-depth understanding of significant ideology(ies) in the classical world. This is an extract from a larger piece of student work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence of specific relevance. The student demonstrates in-depth understanding of the political ideology of the Augustan principate. The student uses primary source evidence of specific relevance (1). The quotations selected are well explained and integrated into the response. The student analyses a range of aspects of Augustan political ideology (2). The points made regarding his use of pre-existing powers, the first constitutional settlement and use of the army allow the student to give an informed analysis of the political ideology expressed through the principate. For a more secure Merit, the student should explore points in more depth.

Father "My son I am proud of you, you have become a man in your own right through your studies and your own development. I respect your decisions and opinions but I ask you, how can you honor Augustus Caesar?"

Student 3: Low Merit

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Son "Father, you are a wise man who will always have my respect from the auctoritas you have earned but how can you not acknowledge Augustus for restoring Rome into this great republic"?

Father "Republic? Son I think you mean Empire, Augustus was an intelligent leader as well as a wise politician but he did not care about Rome or its dying republic as much as he cared about gaining power".

Son "How can you say he didn't care about Rome and its people, he restored much of the city including the aqueducts, the theatre of Pompey and many of the lost political posts and monuments during the civil war, all of which he did not sign his name on to honor himself. This showed his auctoritas and his pietas to Rome showing his true Republican. He did the city a momentous favor by repairing and rebuilding lost temples, which have restored Rome's faith and belief in its God's. He showed great Pietas to Rome giving full credibility to his quote, "I found Rome a city of brick and left Rome a city of marble".

Father "All the good-will deeds he did are just strategies of the populares much the same as the ones his Father, Julius Caesar used. They where were just methods to try and gain political power. Do you believe that a true Republican would manipulate the population to satisfy his own agenda?"

Son "Power. He gave his power back in 27 B.C to the Senate and the People of Rome. He returned the republic to Rome to save it (2) as it says in the Res Gestae, "I took precedence of all influence, but of power I possessed no more than those who were my colleagues in office".

Father "Ha, maybe he did care about Rome but don't be a fool in thinking that he did these deeds to solely help Rome and its people. Like I said he was a wise politician, he knew that he could not have such high power and position in the Senate, in which he did not gain legally. He had seen in the assassination of Julius Caesar, which taught him to never accept such extravagant honors. So he revoked his 'official' titles by retiring, to say he was powerless however is a joke, Augustus had a large army of veteran soldiers who were loyal to him, colossal wealth and the largest client base in Rome. The name Caesar alone gave him more power and respect than any other man in Rome."

Son "He did have all those things but he returned his power so the Senate were once again the leading body of Rome. This was to show he wanted to maintain the Republican."

Father "This was a political gamble that paid off as he was demanded back into the senate by the people and the position of Senior Consul was given to him by the Roman Government. He was then given the largest Proconsulship of Gaul, Spain, Syria and Egypt all of which contained massive Legions of soldiers sworn to Augustus, their commander and this was for 10 years. All of this was some-what legal but we can't forget all of Augustus's clients in the senate.

Son "You're referring to the first settlement in which much of the republic was restored. The magistrates were now elected by the people as usual-"

Father "Yes, except Augustus is automatically elected into one of the consulships"

Son "No the people refused to vote so-"

Father "Even though Augustus was granted commendatio, giving the legal power to tell people who to vote for"

Son "Let me speak! The people really wanted him to be Consul. Around 19 B.C the people refused to vote for a second Consul in an attempt to convince Augustus to accept the position.

Father "Wait! So you're saying he held the power of Consul purely because the people demanded it?"

Son "No, I'm saying he kept Consular power to restore the Republic. Rome needs two Consuls, the Senate collapses if there is only one man in power. By holding onto the position he kept the Roman people pleased as well as keeping the Senate of Rome balanced by agreeing to the First Settlement keeping himself in the Consulship each year. He wasn't willing to hold onto the power any longer as he would appear unrepublican in his own eyes."

Grade Boundary: High Achieved 4. For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of significant ideology(ies) in the classical world. These are extracts from a larger piece of student work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence. The student demonstrates understanding of Augustus' political ideology, using primary source evidence throughout the dialogue to support points made (1). The primary source evidence used by the student is of specific relevance and the use of supporting evidence is at Merit level. The student analyses constitutional and military aspects of Augustan political ideology (2), but could have covered a range of aspects such as the use of propaganda, religion as a political tool or the changes in political ideology within Augustus' own lifetime. The student relates the ideology to the wider context of Rome (3). To reach Merit, the student could: cover a range of aspects

explore points in more detail to demonstrate an informed analysis.

Son – Father I must say that after reading Augustus' Res Gestae, I am convinced that Augustus saved Rome from civil war and restored our great republic.

Student 4: High Achieved

Father – My son, if only you were old enough to see the monarchy that Augustus ruled. Although he was not named as a dictator, he ruled as if he were a dictator. He held supreme power, like nobody else ever had. Augustus was Princeps Senatus, Tribunicia Potestas, Pontifex Maximus and Consul, while at the same time he held Proconsular Imperium Maius.

- Son Yes, he did hold all of those powers and honours, but there is nothing un-republican about this because there was precedence as many other people held these noble positions before him. Augustus restored the republic because he brought back the mos maiorum and out traditional practices, for example; our city
- can now worship and show our pietas to the gods through the 82 temples Augustus rebuilt in 28BC.

 Thanks to Augustus, our nation now proudly wears the Toga again. Cassius Dio also tells us that Augustus did not take any power that was without precedence.

Father – yes all these powers had been held before, but not all by one person. Augustus had greater power than anyone had ever had before, and this supreme power was surely un-republican. You seem to be forgetting the un-republican way in which Augustus gained his power as well. He raised an army without imperium and marched on Rome to be Consul. Although you are correct in saying he brought back some of the ways of our ancestors that does not mean he restored the republic. How can you possibly claim that Augustus restored the republic when it is ruled under the tyranny of one man?

- Son Augustus only accepted powers which were republican as he says in Res Gestae, "I refused any office inconsistent with custom of our ancestors". Besides he did not want to lead Rome with all of this power which is why in 27BC, before the first settlement he resigned. This is also written in Res Gestae, "in my 6th and 7th consulships I transferred the republic from my power to the power of the senate and people of Rome". Augustus wanted to restore the republic, not destroy it.
- Father He resigned to make it look like he was republican and not aiming for dictator-type powers. You must realise that Augustus planned to have even more power bestowed on him after resigning. Cassius Dio says that Augustus prepared his most reliable senators before he gave away his power back to the senate and people of Rome. And Tacitus says, "Augustus seduced the army with gifts, the people with food and all with the gift of peace". Clearly Augustus has placed his loyal friends and clients into senatorial positions and

used bribery to make everyone happy. Augustus' resignation was only an act.

Son – That is completely untrue! The powers and responsibilities given to him in the first settlement were rightfully his. He ended all civil wars and freed the sea of pirates; thanks to Augustus we are now in a time labelled, 'Pax Romana'. Of course he handed back the control of the republic after he had ended civil war, as he had done his job in restoring the republic and he deserved to be rewarded for that. The raising of an army was approved by the senate when he was granted propraetorian imperium. Just because the senate gave him power which was better than normal is not un-republican.

1 Father – Augustus' power wasn't just given to him by the senate. Tacitus says he gradually increased his powers and drew into his own hands the functions of the senate, the magistrates and the law. Augustus wasn't respected by the people of Rome he was feared, he ruled through his auctoritas and a large army.

Son – A large army!? Augustus re-administrated the army so that were loyal to the senate and therefore Rome, and not the power hungry generals who exploited the service of army because the army was loyal to them. You see this is one of the ways that Augustus brought back the pride in the republic. He focused on peace rather than allowing civil unrest seen in the times of private armies.

Father- He did change the way in which the army was controlled and led back to the senate, like it used to be but it was still Augustus that settled the retired soldiers on land confiscated from republicans during the



proscriptions. Augustus was still was still popular with the people because on the surface he appears to have restored the republic but when we look deeper into how and why he achieved everything he did, we saw that he did this through the use of force and propaganda.

Son- Propaganda, I don't believe that for a minute. Augustus gave the retired soldiers land titles because he was the only senator wealthy and generous enough to appreciate the fighting done for the republic by our soldiers.

Grade Boundary: Low Achieved

5. For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of significant ideology(ies) in the classical world.

This is an extract from a larger piece of student work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence.

The student demonstrates some understanding of the political ideology of Augustus. Aspects of the ideology of the Augustan principate have been covered, such as the changes to the constitution through new and modified titles and powers and the modifications to the structure and powers of the senate and the need for a legitimate successor to his powers (2).

However, the student does not go beyond these to consider other aspects of political ideology such as the use of propaganda, religion as a political tool or the changes in political ideology within Augustus' own lifetime. Many points are just stated without the detailed analysis required for a higher grade. Primary source evidence has been used to support points made, but this is sporadic (1).

For a more secure Achieved the student could:

- explore points in greater depth
- use primary source evidence more consistently to support points made
- more clearly relate Augustan political ideology to the wider context of the Roman world.

Son: Rome's system of government now, is nothing like it was when Julius Caesar was removed.

Student 5: Low Achieved

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Father: Augustus has ruined everything the republic ever stood for. He has sole power of Rome.

Son: But Dad, don't you see? Augustus said in paragraph 34.1 of his Res Gestae that in his sixth and seventh consulships (in 28/7 BCE) he transferred the Republic from his own power to the control of the senate and people of Rome. So Augustus was willing to give the senate its power back and to the people of Rome.

And remember, it was us who gave Augustus' power back so it is our fault if he has sole power of Rome. When he declared he was going to resign we all wanted him to stay and for that we had to offer him something he wouldn't refuse.

Father: Son, you don't realise that the senate needs military power to have any say in things, and

significantly it was Augustus who was controlling that military power so he always had an army backing him. Victory of Actium had given Octavian the undivided mastery of the Roman world. Julius Caesar had once held before this position. Octavian was not one to forget what fate had befallen Caesar. In order to prevent a similar demise, he needed to create a new constitution. Hence on January 27 BC Octavian in the so-called 'First Settlement' went through a strangely orchestrated ceremony in which he 'surrendered' all his power to the senate - thus restoring the Republic. It was a purely symbolical sacrifice as he receiving most of the very same power right back again. Hardly any of the men who had been part of the true republican administration were still alive. Augustus revised the senate roll three times, expelling those he did not approve of through prescriptions. The senate is now increasingly composed of 'novus homo who have come from all over Italy, who have no experience of the traditions of service in the senate but who can satisfy Augustus' 1 million sesterces of property qualification. Octavian received into his personal control, for ten years, the vitally important

provinces of Egypt, Cyprus, Spain, Gaul and Syria. Also he was contually re-elected as consul from 31 to 23 BC. Having all these provinces is truly un-republican. It is against the cursus honorum to be in consulship for 8 years in a row.

Son: But dad, having these provinces is republican because precedence was set from Marius and Pompey. Pompey who had sole consulship and had proconsulship of Spain and he had legates. The senate gave him all this land including the poison of consul for 8 years so it is republican. And anyway in the 'Second Settlement' Augustus gave up the consulship and instead was awarded tribunician powers (*tribunicia potestas*) for life by the senate. Tribunician powers gave him the right to call the senate to meetings, to propose legislation in the popular assembly, and to veto any enactments. Also his command over 'his' provinces was renewed. These powers once again given to him by the senate makes them republican.

Father: Having Tribunicia Potestas give Augustus the powers of a tribune of the plebs and Augustus

is a patrician so he has no right to hold this power and a person who is already consul should not have it because It gives too much power to one man when linked up with another great power such as being consul. And you forget he was also given proconsular imperium maius, which gives him control of almost all provinces with a military precedence. No one has ever been given that much power so no precedence was set for it and having this much power for a single person in Rome is un-republican.

23BC August becomes ill and almost dies and so he makes his succession policy where he uses destinatio and powers to make sure people he knows get to be his successors. Such as giving Marcellus Adile so he can be known to the people and he is also married to Julia. When Marcellus dies he turns to Agrippa who gets to marry Julia, the navel crown, and he also gets powers of Tribunica Potestas (5years) imperium. When Agrippa died his next choice was Agrippa's two sons Gaius and Lucius who got Princeps Inventutis and equites gave them the title of priesthoods. Augustus also made them destinato for consul at age 20. Unfortunately they both die so Augustus turns to Tiberius who he marries to Julia and is given consul and two triumphs. He is also given trib

pot for 5 years. Augustus' succession policy was truly un-republican.

Grade Boundary: High Not Achieved For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of significant 6. ideology(ies) in the classical world. This is an extract from a larger piece of student work. Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence. The student demonstrates limited understanding of political ideology during the Augustan principate. The student selects but does not use primary source evidence (1). Large excerpts of the Res Gestae Divi Augusti have been given, but the selection is not explained or used to demonstrate understanding of the political ideology of Augustus. Some valid points are briefly mentioned (2), but not developed or expanded sufficiently to meet the standard. The student cannot demonstrate understanding of Augustan political ideology, therefore there is insufficient evidence to award an Achieved overall. To reach Achieved, the student could: Explain and analyse the primary source evidence to demonstrate understanding of the political ideology of Augustus Explore points in more depth

Relate the ideology to the wider context of the Roman world.

The Father walks over to the book shelf and retrieves a copy of Res Gestae Divi Augustus (The Deeds of the Divine Augustus).

Student 6: High Not Achieved

Dad: It is written in Res Gestae Divi Augusti "The Deeds of the

Divine Augustus" that "In my sixth and seventh consulships [28 and 27 BC], when I had extinguished the flames of civil war, after receiving by universal consent the absolute control of affairs, I transferred the republic from my own control to the will of the senate and the Roman people. For this service on my part I was given the title of Augustus by decree of the senate, and the doorposts of my house were covered with laurels by public act, and a civic crown was fixed above my door, and a golden shield was placed in the Curia Julia whose inscription testified that the senate and the Roman people gave me this in recognition of my valour, my clemency, my justice, and my piety. After that time I took precedence of all in rank, but of power I possessed no

- justice, and my piety. After that time I took precedence of all in rank, but of power I possessed no more than those who were my colleagues in any magistracy."
- Son: What Pa there is no way you can use Res Gestae Divi Augusti in this argument that book is extremely biased!

Dad: No it is pure proof of what Augustus had achieved in his 40yrs of ruling Rome *Son:* For crying out loud Pa he wrote this about himself. It's not like he is going to say his mysterious plans for the whole world to read.

Dad: okay boy let's see what you have got to say then. Go on!

Son: Fine I will. Hmm where to start? Well let's start from the beginning after the murder of Julius Caesar. It is written in the book Res Gestae Divi Augusti "At the age of nineteen, on my own initiative and at my own expense, I raised an army which I used to liberate the Republic, which was oppressed by the tyranny of a small group of men. Because of this, the senate, with honorific decrees, made me a member of its order, giving me at the same time the title of consul, and the senate granted me the imperium. It ordered me to see to it that the state suffered no harm.

- In the same year, when both consuls had fallen in the war, the people elected me consul and a triumvir for the protection of the commonwealth". He raised an army without Imperium which is totally illegal.
 - *Dad:* Augustus did what he need to after the brutal murder of his adopted father Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar who was dictator for life he had lots of responsibilities to insure the protection of the Roman Republic. This was all explained in the will of Julius Caesar read by Marcus Antonius, that Augustus would gain all of his father's assets. Augustus had responsibilities to Rome and its people...

Son: To Rome and its people? That is an outrageous statement you expect me to believe that this was an act of revenge! He declared Julius Caesar's assassins enemies of the state and forced the senate to declare the deaths of Brutus and Cassius, this made them both flee the city.

Dad: Well it serves them right they murder a great man!

Son: dad he deserved it! DICTATOR FOR LIFE! That's too much power for a single man, the people feared that Caesar was going to make himself a king and were afraid of Caesars power and armies. Julius Caesar was king of Rome in all but title.

Dad: That's disgraceful. The power dictator for life was given by the senate and was also offered to Augustus several times, he rejected the offer and said "no one man should have this much power".

Son: Yet he was considered the First Emperor of Rome. This is a bit hypocritical don't you think?

Dad: Maybe, but son he tried to retire but the people refused. There were protests about his withdrawing from politics. This led to a proposal by the senate that Augusus should accept a revised role in the government of Rome.

Son: But dad they gave him more power so he would stay. Does that not sound a bit odd? He's trying to restore the republic by handing power over back to the senate and yet somehow gain even more political power.