

Drama Study

Unit:

Macbeth

(Assessments as / for Learning)

Work Book

Macbeth : characters

Match the character name in the boxes below to the description of each character. Write the name in the box provided.

Macbeth	Lady Macbeth	The Porter	Macduff
Duncan	Banquo	Malcolm	The Witches

	<p>This trio of 'secret, black, and midnight hags' are evil trouble-makers. They plot to meet Macbeth on a blasted heath. Their fortune-telling spurs Macbeth onto murder. They trick him into believing that he is immortal.</p>
	<p>He is a drunken door-keeper who imagines himself at the gates of hell. He is slow to answer the urgent knocking and admit Macduff to the castle. He is a comic figure whose lewd banter gives Macbeth time to change and wash after knifing Duncan.</p>
	<p>He and his brother, Donalbain, are the main suspects for the murder of their royal father. He flees Scotland for exile in England. He tests Macduff's integrity and gains English support for an invasion of Scotland. He commands his army to cut branches from Birnam forest to camouflage the march on Dunsinane. He is the rightful heir to the throne and restores order.</p>
	<p>He is the loyal Thane of Fife who discovers Duncan's corpse. He refuses to attend Macbeth's coronation and leads the crusade to dethrone him. He seeks revenge for the slaughter of his wife and young son. He was 'from his mother's womb / Untimely ripp'd' and kills Macbeth in hand-to-hand combat.</p>
	<p>He is a courageous and faithful soldier. The witches prophesy that his children will inherit the throne of Scotland. He resists his ambitious thoughts and chooses to keep his 'allegiance clear' to the king. He suspects his friend, Macbeth, of foul play but keeps his fears to himself and is silenced by murder.</p>
	<p>He is the rightful king of Scotland and an honourable ruler who is well respected. He executes the traitorous first Thane of Cawdor. He is a generous guest who presents his hostess with a diamond. His trusting nature is his downfall. He is stabbed to death in his bed.</p>
	<p>She is ruthless in her ambition for the crown and summons demons to help her commit murder. She manipulates her husband with sharp-tongued taunts about his manhood. She deflects suspicion from Macbeth by fainting. She sleepwalks nightly and obsessively tries to wash her hands clean of imaginary blood. She is driven mad by her guilty conscience and kills herself.</p>
	<p>This brave warrior is rewarded for his loyalty to Duncan with the title of Thane of Cawdor. He meets three witches who prophesy that he will become King. He is easily led into committing murder by a goading wife and his own ambition for the throne. He is haunted by a vision of Banquo's ghost. He becomes a tyrant who feels life is meaningless. He is killed in combat by Macduff.</p>

Quote	Speaker	Act & Scene	Theme(s)	Explanation
'fair is foul, and foul is fair'	Witches	Act 1 Scene 1	Reality and Appearance	This suggests that appearances can be deceiving. The Witches look ugly but their prophecy seems beautiful to Macbeth. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth appear innocent and welcoming but a secretly plotting regicide (the murder of a king)
'look like th'innocent flower but be the serpent under 't'	Lady Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 5		
'Come you spirits that tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here and fill me from the crown to the toe topfull of the direct cruelty'	Lady Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 5		
'stars hide your fires, let not light see my black and deep desires'	Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 4		
'who should against his murderer shut the door, not bear the knife myself'	Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 7		
'We will proceed no more in this business'	Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 7		
'Is this a dagger I see before me, handle towards my hand?'	Macbeth	Act 2 Scene 1		
'too full o'th'milk of human kindness to catch the nearest way'	Lady Macbeth	Act 1 Scene 5		
'When our actions do not, Our fears do make us traitors'	Lady Macduff	Act 4 Scene 2		

Explanation

Quote	Speaker	Act & Scene	Theme(s)	Explanation
'Glamis hath murdered sleep, and therefore Cawdor shall sleep no more. Macbeth shall sleep no more.'	Macbeth	Act 2 Scene 2		
'Thou hast it now— King, Cawdor, Glamis, all/ As the Weird Women promise, and I fear/ And played' st foully for 't'	Banquo	Act 3 Scene 1		
'what I am truly, Is thine and my poor country's to command'	Malcolm	Act 4 Scene 3		
'What are these / So wither'd and so wild in their attire, / That look not like the inhabitants o' the eart, / And yet are on 't'?	Banquo	Act 1 Scene 3		
'Double, double toil and trouble; / Fire burn, and cauldron bubble'	The Witches	Act 4 Scene 1	The supernatural	The Witches repeat the word 'double' which shows that Macbeth will face twice the amount of trouble. It suggests that things will not end well for Macbeth. It foreshadows the horrible event which happen in the play and the battle which results in Macbeth's death.
'To be thus is nothing, but to be safely this. / Our fears in Banquo / Stick deep, and in his royalty of nature / Reigns that which would be feared'	Macbeth	Act 3 Scene 1		
'blood will have blood'	Macbeth	Act 3 Scene 4		
'Foul whisperings are abroad: unnatural deeds / Do breed unnatural troubles'	Doctor	Act 5 Scene 1		

Part ____: Passage Analysis

Knowledge/Understanding, Thinking/Inquiry and Application (5 marks)

Choose ONE of the following passages from *Macbeth* and answer the questions that follow.

1) *The Prince of Cumberland! That is a step
 On which I must fall down, or else o'erleap,
 For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires;
 Let not light see my black and deep desires.
 The eye wink at the hand; yet let that be
 Which the eye fears, when it is done, to see.* (1.4.55-60)

2) Who is speaking? _____ /1

3) When is this said? (In your own words, NOT the act and scene number)
 _____ /1

4) How does this passage demonstrate the theme of the power of **ambition**? Chose specific lines from the quote to support your answer. Be sure to make notes on the quote as you do a close reading! /3

Lady Macbeth – Act 3, Scene 2 – Analysis and Discussion



☛ Compare Lady Macbeth's words while she is alone in Act 3 Scene 2 Lines 4-7,

4 Nought's had, all's spent,
 5 Where our desire is got without content;
 6 'Tis safer to be that which we destroy
 7 Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.

Here in modern English,

If you get what you want and you're still not happy, you've spent everything and gained nothing. It's better to be the person who gets murdered than to be the killer and be tormented with anxiety.

with what she says when Macbeth joins her, Lines 8-12,

8 How now, my lord! why do you keep alone,
 9 Of sorriest fancies your companions making,
 10 Using those thoughts which should indeed have die
 11 With them they think on? Things without all remedy
 12 Should be without regard: what's done is done.

here in modern English,

What's going on, my lord? Why are you keeping to yourself, with only your sad thoughts to keep you company? Those thoughts should have died when you killed the men you're thinking about. If you can't fix it, you shouldn't give it a second thought. What's done is done.

☛ Lady Macbeth says one thing to herself and then the opposite to Macbeth (hypocrisy). What theme is being conveyed in these passages? Analyze what she says to Macbeth and give your opinion as to why she says it.

Macbeth “Out, out, brief candle!” Analysis

Examine the following lines and answer the questions below:

She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word.
Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury
Signifying nothing. — *Macbeth* (V.v. 17-28)



1. What is Macbeth's mood in this passage?
2. What is Macbeth suggesting about the passing of time?
3. What does Macbeth mean when he says that "[l]ife's but a walking shadow" (V.v.24)?

4. What does Macbeth mean when he compares life to "a poor player / That struts and frets his hour upon the stage / And then is heard from no more" (V.v.24-26)?

5. What is Macbeth suggesting about the meaning of life?

6. Explain how this passage shows a change in Macbeth's character.