

Macbeth: Act 2 Scene 1

Test Yourself

Write each answer as a full sentence with quotations and add to any annotations you have made on your copy of the scene.

- 1) What is the time at the start of the scene? Who tells us this?
- 2) How do we know that Banquo can see no stars? Why might this be an important piece of information?
- 3) What does Banquo say is keeping him from sleeping at night?
- 4) What lie does Macbeth tell Banquo? What does this tell us about how their relationship has changed?



'Is this a dagger
which I see before
me'



- 5) Why do you think that the dagger appears? What does it show about Macbeth's state of mind?
- 6) What does Macbeth first think about the dagger that appears?
- 7) How do we know that Macbeth is telling the truth when he is talking about the dagger. (Clue: why would he not have any reason to lie!)
- 8) What does Macbeth call the bell that rings at the end of the scene?

Macbeth: Act 2 Scene 2

Test Yourself

Write each answer as a full sentence with quotations and add to any annotations you have made on your copy of the scene.

- 1) Which characters are onstage at the start of the scene?
- 2) How do we know Lady Macbeth is nervous when the scene opens? Try to give more than one reason.
- 3) What reason does Lady Macbeth give for not carrying out the murder herself? How does this suggest that she is not as evil as she tries to make out?
- 4) In the conversation between Lady Macbeth and Macbeth, how do we know they are both scared from the way that they talk.



'A little water
clears us of this
deed'



- 5) What did Macbeth think he heard just after he had killed Duncan? Why did this upset him so much?
- 6) What mistake has Macbeth made that causes his wife to order him to go back? What does he need to do?
- 7) What does Lady Macbeth say that the sleeping and the dead both look like?
- 8) What is the difference in their attitudes to the blood they have on their hands. How do they differ in how easy they think it will be to remove?
- 9) What line does Macbeth speak at the end of the scene which shows regret for his actions?

Macbeth: Act 5 Scene 3

Test Yourself

Write each answer as a full sentence with quotations and add to any annotations you have made on your copy of the scene.

- 1) Who is Macbeth referring to when he says 'Let them all fly.'?
- 2) What reasons does he give for not being worried about the approaching English army?
- 3) How many soldiers are approaching?
- 4) Macbeth is very nasty to his servant. Find 2/3 quotes as evidence of this. Can you explain what this shows about how Macbeth is really feeling despite what he says?

'I will not be afraid of
death and bane,
Till Birnam forest come
to Dunsinane. '



- 5) When Macbeth is talking to Seyton what metaphor does he use to describe his own life?
- 6) Macbeth tells Seyton that he will fight till what happens?
- 7) What does the doctor say is wrong with Lady Macbeth?
- 8) When the doctor says that he can't cure Lady Macbeth, what does Macbeth say about medicine?
- 9) What does the doctor say at the end of the scene which shows what ordinary people think about Macbeth being king?

Macbeth: Act 5 Scene 4

Test Yourself

Write each answer as a full sentence with quotations and add to any annotations you have made on your copy of the scene.

- 1) Where does this scene take place?
- 2) What previous event might be on Malcolm's mind when he says that he hopes 'the days are near at hand that chambers will be safe'?
- 3) What is Malcolm's idea when he says 'Let every soldier hew him down a bough' and why is it so important that this happens?
- 4) Dramatic irony is when the audience know more than the characters on stage. In what way might the cutting down of branches be seen as dramatic irony?
- 5) What does Malcolm then tell his fellow soldiers about Macbeth's soldiers and allies?
- 6) What did we hear at the end of the previous scene that backs up Malcolm's view of those serving under Macbeth?

'Let every
soldier hew him
down a bough '



Macbeth: Act 5 Scene 5

Test Yourself

Write each answer as a full sentence with quotations and add to any annotations you have made on your copy of the scene.

- 1) At the start of the scene, Macbeth is trying to raise the morale of his troops before they fight. How does he try to do this?
- 2) How does Macbeth react when told that the women are crying out?
- 3) Why does Macbeth say that his wife 'should have died hereafter'?



'To-morrow, and to-morrow,
and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from
day to day'



- 4) Why does Macbeth get so angry towards the messenger? Try to give more than one reason.
- 5) What does Macbeth threaten to do to the messenger if he is not telling the truth?
- 6) What does Macbeth think about the witches when he learns that Birnam Wood is moving?
- 7) How does Macbeth seem to be the brave soldier again at the end of this scene?