

Macbeth Study Guide

Name:

1. What is a tragedy? A tragic hero?
2. What nationality is King Duncan and Macbeth?
3. What country fights against Duncan?
4. Explain: "Fair is foul, and foul is fair."
5. Whom does Macbeth defeat?
6. What does Macbeth do to Macdonwald?
7. For whom are the witches waiting?
8. What body part do the witches have?
9. How do the witches greet Macbeth?
10. What predictions do the witches make?
11. Who are the weird sisters?
12. Why does Macbeth think the witches' prediction may be evil?
13. Explain: "Nothing in his life became him like the leaving it."
14. Explain: "There's no art to find the mind's construction in the face."
15. What kind of person is Duncan?
16. What announcement is made about Malcolm? How does Macbeth react?
17. How does Lady Macbeth find out about the witches' prophecies?
18. What is Lady Macbeth like?
19. Explain: "unsex me here."
20. How does Lady Macbeth treat Duncan when he arrives at her castle?
21. How willing is Macbeth to go along with his wife's plan?
22. How does Lady Macbeth convince Macbeth to go along with her plan?
23. Explain: "False face must hide what the false heart doth know." (1.7.82)

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Act II:

24. What does Banquo tell Macbeth about joining his cause?
25. What does Macbeth see before him?
26. Why do the grooms sleep so soundly?
27. Lady Macbeth would have killed Duncan except that he...?
28. What sounds are heard by Lady Macbeth?
29. What word gets stuck in Macbeth's throat?
30. What does Macbeth think he heard?
31. Why does Lady Macbeth criticize Macbeth?
32. Who takes the daggers back?
33. Explain: "My hands are your color, but I shame/ To wear a heart so white."
34. What do they both hear?
35. What makes you think Macbeth regrets killing the king?
36. Who is knocking?
37. Who answers the door?
38. What three things does drinking provoke?
39. What strange things does Lennox report about their night?
40. Who discovers the king's body?
41. Why does Macbeth "repent me of my fury"?
42. Explain: "Where we are/ There's daggers in men's smile;"
43. Where does Donalbain go?
44. Where does Malcolm go?
45. Explain the falcon/ mousing owl metaphor.

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46. What happens to Duncan's horses?
47. Where does Macbeth go for the coronation ceremony?
48. Where does Macduff go and what does that imply?

Act III:

49. What line indicates Banquo suspects Macbeth?
50. What three questions does Macbeth ask Banquo?
51. Whom does Macbeth fear now?
52. What are the murderers' instructions?
53. What is troubling Macbeth (lines 13-26)?
54. How do we know Lady Macbeth is not plotting more murders with her husband?
55. How many murderers are there?
56. Whom do they kill?
57. Who flees?
58. Macbeth asks at the banquet, "Which of you have done this?" What is he talking about?
59. Explain: "It will have blood, they say: blood will have blood." Who is speaking and about what?
60. Where is Macduff?
61. Why is Hecate angry?
62. What is "mortal's chiefest enemy"?
63. Where is Malcolm?
64. Who is the king of England?

Act IV:

65. What is the first apparition and what does it state?

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66. What is the second apparition and what does it state?

67. What is the third apparition and what does it state?

68. What does Macbeth decide to do to Macduff?

69. Where has Macduff gone?

70. What does Macbeth decide to do to Macduff's family?

71. What happens to Macduff's family?

72. What does Malcolm tell Macduff to test him?

73. How does Macduff react?

74. What does Ross tell Macduff?

75. How does Macduff take the news?

Act V:

76. What is wrong with Lady Macbeth?

77. What does "Out, damned spot! Out, I say!" referring to?

78. What does Malcolm instruct his men to do?

79. What happens to Lady Macbeth?

80. How does Macbeth react to the queen's death?

81. What news does the messenger give Macbeth?

82. What happens to Young Siward?

83. What does Macduff reveal to Macbeth?

84. What happens to Macbeth?

85. Who speaks last in the play? What does that mean?