

PiXL Independence

English Literature – Student Booklet

KS4

AQA and Edexcel Style Macbeth

Contents:

- I. Multiple Choice Questions – 10 credits per set
- II. Context Questions – 20 credits
- III. Major Characters Questions – 20 credits
- IV. Minor Characters Questions – 30 credits
- V. Thematic and Ideas Based Questions – 10 credits per question
- VI. Wider Reading – 150 credits for each task completed
- VII. Exam Style Questions – 100 credits plus 20 bonus credits for marking your own essay
 - a. AQA Exam Style Questions
 - b. Edexcel Style Questions

I. Multiple Choice Questions

Answer these act and scene questions - you could choose to do a section each session or alternatively you could answer multiple chapters at a time.

10 credits for each set of questions (a Scene is a set).

Act 1, Scene 1

1. What is the setting for the opening scene?
 - a. A blasted heath.
 - b. A desert place.
 - c. A beach.
 - d. Forres.

2. Who appears first in the play?
 - a. Three witches.
 - b. Macbeth.
 - c. Banquo.
 - d. Duncan.

3. Complete this line: "When the battle's _____"
 - a. over.
 - b. said and done.
 - c. lost and won.
 - d. gone and run.

4. Where do the witches agree to meet?
 - a. upon the heath.
 - b. in the forest.
 - c. beside the stream.
 - d. within a storm.

5. What is Graymalkin?
 - a. a vicious hound.
 - b. a grey cat.
 - c. the leader of the witches.
 - d. a disease.

6. What is Paddock?
 - a. a type of leaf.
 - b. an area to hold things in.
 - c. a toad.
 - d. the future.

7. Who says the last line in this scene?
- All of them.
 - Witch 1.
 - Witch 2.
 - Witch 3.
8. Complete this line: “in thunder, lightning or in _____?”
- snow.
 - pain.
 - rain.
 - fog.
9. What does “ere the set of sun.” mean?
- before the sun sets.
 - as the sun sets.
 - after the sun sets.
 - here the sun sets.
10. The witches often say things repeated but in inverse order such as “fair is foul and foul is fair”. What is this technique called?
- Asyndeton.
 - Chiasmus.
 - Pathetic fallacy.
 - Foreshadowing.

Act 1, Scene 2

11. What happens in this scene?
 - a. A wounded sergeant/captain reports Macbeth's victory to Duncan.
 - b. Macbeth and Banquo encounter the witches.
 - c. Duncan kills a traitor.
 - d. Macbeth plots to murder Duncan.

12. Who is the first rebel that Macbeth kills?
 - a. Malcolm.
 - b. Duncan.
 - c. Macduff.
 - d. Macdonwald.

13. Which country, helped by the traitor the Thane of Cawdor, attacks Scotland?
 - a. Norway.
 - b. Ireland.
 - c. England.
 - d. Denmark.

14. What does "unseam'd him from the nave to the chaps" mean?
 - a. separated him from the church to take him to his soldiers.
 - b. horribly offended him in front of everyone – from church to his soldiers.
 - c. sliced him from his navel to his jaw.
 - d. cut his body from his legs.

15. Which adjective is put in front of Macbeth's name by the Sergeant/Captain?
 - a. Brave.
 - b. Bloody.
 - c. Bold.
 - d. Treacherous.

16. Who is Bellona?
 - a. One of the witch's names.
 - b. The woman who treats the Sergeant/Captain.
 - c. An ancient Roman Goddess of war.
 - d. Lady Macbeth (her first/maiden name).

17. Who is "Bellona's bridegroom"?
 - a. Ross.
 - b. Duncan.
 - c. Macbeth.
 - d. Sweno.

18. Where has Ross come from?

- a. England.
- b. Fife.
- c. Dunsinane.
- d. Norway.

19. Who does Duncan issue an order to execute?

- a. The Thane of Cawdor.
- b. The Thane of Fife.
- c. The Thane of Glamis.
- d. Sweno.

20. What does Duncan order Ross to bestow upon Macbeth?

- a. The title of Thane of Cawdor.
- b. The title of Thane of Fife.
- c. The title of Thane of Glamis.
- d. The title of Prince of Cumberland.

Act 1, Scene 3

21. What happens in this scene?
- Macbeth and Banquo encounter the witches who tell them prophecies.
 - Macbeth and Banquo encounter a battle.
 - Macbeth meets his wife.
 - Macbeth and Banquo fight Ross and Angus.
22. When the First Witch tells her story, what angered her about the woman?
- She was pretty.
 - She would not give her chestnuts.
 - The woman was praying.
 - The woman had poor table manners.
23. What does the First Witch do to the 'Tiger'.
- Plucks a whisker from it for her spell.
 - Casts a spell to send a storm to sink it.
 - Kills it.
 - Tries to cast a spell on it to convince it to kill Duncan.
24. What is Macbeth's first line?
- So foul and fair a day I have not seen.
 - Fair is foul and foul is fair.
 - What are these?
 - Speak, if you can: what are you?
25. What unsettles Banquo about the appearance of the witches?
- They have beards.
 - They have cat's eyes.
 - They are hovering.
 - They are skinny.
26. How does Banquo react to the witches' hailing Macbeth as Cawdor and one who will be king?
- He expresses jealousy.
 - He questions why Macbeth seems to fear it.
 - He does not speak or say anything.
 - He accuses the witches of lying.
27. What do the witches prophecy for Banquo?
- That he will be king.
 - That he will die.
 - That his sons will be kings.
 - That his ghost will haunt Macbeth.

28. Who is Sinel?

- a. A sinner.
- b. An ancient Roman God of death.
- c. The rebel Macbeth killed in battle to gain his title.
- d. Macbeth's father.

29. When Macbeth learns the truth of the witches' prophecies, what does Banquo caution him about?

- a. Banquo reminds Macbeth that his loyalty must be to the king.
- b. Banquo warns him to completely ignore everything the witches said.
- c. Being aware that he should not act or do anything based on what the witches say.
- d. Being easily tricked by being told small truths which leads to later betrayal causing deeper harm.

30. What does Macbeth decide to do towards the end of this scene?

- a. Nothing – he feels that he will let things take their course.
- b. Kill Duncan.
- c. Kill Malcolm.
- d. Return to the witches to find out more.

Act 1, Scene 4

31. What did the Thane of Cawdor do before being executed?
- Cursed the King.
 - Confessed and asked for pardon.
 - Begged to be set free.
 - Cursed Macbeth.
32. What does Duncan mean by saying "There's no art/To find the mind's construction in the face"?
- There's no magic which allows you to read minds.
 - There's no way of being able to tell what someone is thinking and if they are honest by their face.
 - There's no painting which shows what people really look like.
 - There are no ways to explain our thoughts and ideas perfectly to each other.
33. How does Duncan explain how he will help Macbeth?
- Duncan implies Macbeth will grow like a plant.
 - Duncan implies Macbeth will fly like a bird.
 - Duncan implies Macbeth will rise like a bubble
 - Duncan implies Macbeth will strengthen like a castle.
34. Who does Duncan name as his heir?
- Malcolm.
 - Donalbain.
 - Macbeth.
 - No-one.
35. Where is Duncan going to travel to?
- Inverness.
 - Fife.
 - England.
 - Forres.
36. What does Macbeth tell Duncan he will do?
- Kill any remaining rebels.
 - Tell Lady Macbeth that Duncan will be coming to their castle.
 - Stay with him.
 - Work hard and remain loyal to the King.

37. What does Macbeth mean by saying that he must “o’erleap” the Prince of Cumberland?
- a. Do nothing.
 - b. Somehow get around not being the heir to become king.
 - c. Kill Malcolm.
 - d. Kill Duncan.
38. Complete this line: “Stars, hide your fires;/Let not light see my _____”?
- a. soul as it expires
 - b. blade beneath the briars
 - c. dark, deadly desires.
 - d. black and deep desires.
39. Which of Duncan’s sons does not speak in this scene?
- a. Malcolm
 - b. Donalbain.
 - c. Ross.
 - d. Lennox.
40. How does the king feel towards Macbeth?
- a. He holds Macbeth in high esteem.
 - b. He distrusts Macbeth.
 - c. He has no strong feelings either way towards Macbeth.
 - d. He believes Macbeth will give him lots of food.

Act 1, Scene 5

41. What is Lady Macbeth doing at the start of this scene?
- Plotting to kill Duncan.
 - Sewing a tapestry.
 - Reading a letter.
 - Writing a letter.
42. What does Macbeth call the witches?
- Witches.
 - Weird sisters.
 - Prophets.
 - Hags.
43. What does Lady Macbeth worry about Macbeth after learning of his encounter with the witches?
- That he has gone mad.
 - That he is too nice to commit murder.
 - That he is plotting terrible things.
 - That he does not love her.
44. What does Lady Macbeth mean when she asks the “spirits” to “unsex” her?
- She wants to lose any feelings of femininity which might stop her from their plan.
 - She wants to gain back her virginity.
 - She wants to become a man.
 - She wants to become less attractive so that Macbeth is not distracted by her.
45. Lady Macbeth refers to “milk” several times in the play and this scene, what literary term can we use for this?
- Analepsis.
 - Prolepsis.
 - Synecdoche.
 - Motif.
46. Lady Macbeth refers to ‘the raven’. What is this not potentially symbolic of?
- Death.
 - Treachery.
 - Prophecy.
 - Flying.

47. When Macbeth says that Duncan will leave “To-morrow, as he purposes”, what might it reveal about Macbeth’s plan?
- He doesn’t have one.
 - He will kill Duncan.
 - He intends to wait until tomorrow.
 - He definitely will not kill Duncan.
48. Complete this line: “look like the innocent flower,/But be the _____.”
- poison’d thorns.
 - serpent under’t.
 - pestilence beneath.
 - beetle’s power.
49. What does Macbeth say in response to Lady Macbeth’s plotting?
- We will speak further.
 - Thou speak’st aright.
 - ’Twill be done, my dearest partner of greatness.
 - Art thou not afeard?
50. Lady Macbeth dominates the conversation and decides the course of action in this scene, why might that be seen as unusual by a Shakespearean audience?
- Because she does not speak in the rest of the play.
 - Because, at the time, they were very religious.
 - Because she subverts contemporary expectations that Jacobean women should be subservient.
 - Because many women were illiterate in the Jacobean era.

Act 1, Scene 6 and 7

51. When Duncan arrives at Macbeth's castle, how does he seem?
- He is deeply suspicious of both of the Macbeths.
 - He is very positive about the place.
 - He is drunk.
 - He is plagued by anxieties and worries but cannot specify what troubles him.
52. Macbeth delivers a long speech on his own at the start of Act 1, Scene 7. What is this called?
- A soliloquy.
 - A dialogue.
 - Chiasmus.
 - Malapropism.
53. Macbeth finishes his speech with the metaphor: "I have no spur / To prick the sides of my intent, but only / Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself / And falls on the other." What does this mean?
- I don't own any horses so there is no point in killing Duncan because I couldn't escape the castle quickly.
 - I have no strong reason for wanting to kill Duncan except my own ambition which will probably result in things going terribly wrong.
 - I have to go through with this and kill Duncan and so it is useless worrying about it anymore.
 - I do not have a dagger to kill Duncan with and so first I must find one before I get to ahead of myself.
54. After Macbeth's speech, Lady Macbeth arrives and talks to Macbeth. He seems to have made a decision about killing Duncan. What does he say?
- My dove-like mind blanches at this horror
 - Now might I do't
 - We will proceed in this business
 - We will proceed no further in this business
55. In order to get him to do what she wants, Lady Macbeth implies Macbeth is what?
- A brave soldier.
 - A coward.
 - A wise man.
 - A devil.

56. Lady Macbeth continues to convince Macbeth by saying “When you durst do it, then you were a man”. What is she doing here?
- Implying that it is manly to be daring.
 - Saying that Macbeth is literally a woman.
 - Telling Macbeth to forget about it and not kill Duncan.
 - Explaining how people will call him a woman if he doesn’t do it.
57. Lady Macbeth uses a brutal and shocking image to illustrate how she would carry out an action if she said she would. What is it?
- That she would dash the brains out of her own child.
 - That she would extinguish the flame of her own life.
 - That she would plunge the daggers deep into Macbeth in his sleep.
 - That she would burn the castle to the ground with all the sleepers within.
58. What does Lady Macbeth plan to do with Duncan’s guards?
- Seduce them.
 - Get them drunk and happy until they sleep.
 - Poison them.
 - Nothing, she will leave them to Macbeth to murder.
59. What does Lady Macbeth suggest that they should do when others discover Duncan’s murder.
- Remain silent.
 - Be very vocally grief-stricken.
 - Run away.
 - Blame Malcolm and Donalbain.
60. At the end of this scene, Macbeth says: Away, and mock the time with fairest show: / False face must hide what the false heart doth know.” There is a rhyme in these two lines which tends to show a greater sense of certainty or at least shows that his thoughts have been concluded. What is it called when two lines rhyme together like this?
- An exposition.
 - Polysyndeton.
 - A couplet.
 - Ellipsis.

Act 2, Scene 1

61. What time is it likely to be in this scene?
- At the stroke of midnight.
 - After midnight.
 - Dusk – just after sundown.
 - Dawn – sunrise.
62. What gift did Duncan give Lady Macbeth?
- His royal presence at their castle.
 - A diamond.
 - His horses.
 - A generous amount of money for Macbeth's service.
63. What had Banquo dreamt of?
- The battles that Macbeth and he took part in.
 - Murder and death.
 - Nothing – he has not dreamt.
 - The weird sisters.
64. What is Macbeth implying by saying: "If you shall cleave to my consent, when 'tis, / It shall make honour for you."?
- If you don't do as I say I will murder you.
 - If you ally yourself with me then it will go well for you.
 - If you undermine my authority then you will be dishonoured.
 - If you leave right now then it will be better for you.
65. After Banquo leaves, Macbeth sees something. What is it?
- A witch.
 - A dagger.
 - A coin.
 - A child.
66. What changes in the appearance of Macbeth's vision?
- It gets set on fire and burns.
 - It withers and fades away.
 - It becomes covered in blood.
 - It bubbles and melts into the earth.
67. During his speech, Macbeth refers to "Hecate". Who is this?
- An ancient Roman goddess associated with magic and witch-craft.
 - An ancient Roman goddess associated with murder.
 - The name of one of the witches.
 - Lady Macbeth.

68. What does Macbeth ask the earth to do?

- a. To forgive him for his deeds.
- b. To accept the body of Duncan once he has been killed.
- c. To open up and swallow him so that he goes to hell.
- d. To not hear him in case the stones speak of his movements.

69. What is a “knell”?

- a. A small hill.
- b. A bell rung at funerals.
- c. A whistle used to summon boatmen to ferry across rivers.
- d. An order issued by a king.

70. Off-stage immediately following this scene, what significant event happens?

- a. Duncan is murdered by Macbeth.
- b. Macbeth murders the guards.
- c. Lady Macbeth visits the witches.
- d. Banquo rings the alarum bells.

Act 2, Scene 2

71. How does Lady Macbeth say she feels?
- Confident because she has been drinking.
 - Nervous and anxious because of what is happening.
 - Calm because the plan is foolproof.
 - Angry because she wanted to kill Duncan herself.
72. What reason does Lady Macbeth give for not killing Duncan herself?
- She felt too weak and she blamed this on her being a woman.
 - She did not want to get blood on her hands and night-gown.
 - He resembled her father as he slept.
 - She wanted Macbeth to feel important.
73. What animals does Lady Macbeth say she hears?
- An owl and a cricket.
 - A raven and a dog.
 - A horse and a wolf.
 - A beetle and a bat.
74. What was Macbeth concerned that he was unable to say?
- God be with you.
 - Amen.
 - His own name.
 - God bless us.
75. Macbeth thought he heard a voice cry out, what did he think it told him?
- That he will sleep no more.
 - That he will die.
 - That he will go mad from guilt.
 - That he is a murderer.
76. Why does Macbeth refuse to go back to Duncan's chamber?
- Because there is knocking at the gate which he needs to answer.
 - Because he needs to wash his hands.
 - Because he is too tired and needs to go to bed.
 - Because he is afraid to see what he has done.

77. Macbeth exaggerates how much blood is on his hands, how does he do this?
- By saying that even if he washed his hands in the oceans they would all turn red with the blood.
 - By saying that even if he washed his hands in all the rivers of the land that they would turn red with blood.
 - By saying that he would be washing his hands until the end of time itself.
 - By saying that his hands are now those of a red demon under the many layers of dried blood on him.
78. Lady Macbeth says “A little water clears us of this deed”. In terms of devices, we can say this is in _____ with Macbeth’s reactions.
- metaphorical synergy
 - comic parallel
 - dramatic contrast
 - direct accordance
79. Complete this line: “My hands are of your colour; but I shame / To wear a _____”?
- face so pale.
 - heart so white.
 - gown so marked.
 - soul so stained.
80. What is Macbeth’s despairing wish at the end of this scene?
- That the knocking at the gate will wake up Duncan.
 - That the knocking at the gate will stop.
 - That the knocking at the gate will wake up everyone.
 - That the knocking at the gate will not wake anyone.

Act 2, Scene 3

81. The Porter talks about equivocation and the person arriving being an equivocator, what does he mean by this word?
- Someone who adds up things.
 - Someone who speaks ambiguously or doesn't tell the whole truth.
 - Someone who casts spells.
 - Someone who speaks metaphorically and symbolically, not literally.
82. The Porter refers to "Beelzebub", who is this?
- Himself.
 - Macbeth's first name.
 - The Devil.
 - No-one, it is a nonsense word.
83. According to Lennox, how did the night pass?
- Very quietly, nothing was amiss.
 - It was very unruly, there were strong winds and strange noises.
 - It was unseasonably hot and uncomfortable.
 - Very quickly, the night seemed to last a very short time.
84. Who discovers that Duncan has been murdered?
- Macduff.
 - Macbeth.
 - Malcolm.
 - Lennox.
85. What does Macbeth do when he goes into Duncan's chambers?
- Cries and grieves.
 - He doesn't go back to the chambers as he doesn't want to see Duncan again.
 - Nothing, he just looks at Duncan.
 - Kills the guards.
86. Whilst Macbeth is explaining himself to Macduff, Lady Macbeth does something quite possibly to distract everyone. What is it?
- She screams in shock and horror.
 - She faints.
 - She accuses Malcolm and Donalbain of murder.
 - She rings the alarum bells.

87. What does Macbeth propose that they all do?

- a. Begin the funeral arrangements.
- b. Put Malcolm and Donalbain on trial.
- c. Meet in the hall.
- d. Nothing.

88. Towards the end of this scene, what do Malcolm and Donalbain decide to do?

- a. Run away.
- b. Stay quiet.
- c. Attend the funeral of their father.
- d. Kill Macbeth.

89. Donalbain says: "There's daggers in men's smiles". Which explanation of this is most accurate?

- a. It is a simile showing how threatening the world is.
- b. It is a metaphor which implies that there are hidden threats from people pretending to be friends.
- c. It is symbolic of the vision that Macbeth saw and relates to the idea that there are supernatural presences felt everywhere.
- d. It is personifying daggers to show that they are used to do terrible things in the name of good deeds.

90. What is the term for murdering a king?

- a. Regicide.
- b. Monarchicide.
- c. Emperocide.
- d. Sovereignicide.

Act 2, Scene 4

91. How many years can the 'Old Man' remember?
- 40.
 - 60.
 - 70.
 - 90.
92. What does Ross say about the weather?
- It is so cloudy that it looks like night-time.
 - It is really severe and horrible.
 - It is extremely cold and miserable.
 - That it is difficult to understand how the sun can shine when there are such terrible events happening.
93. The Old Man says unnatural things have happened recently. What is one of the examples he gives?
- An eagle was killed by a crow.
 - A falcon was killed by a mousing owl.
 - A bat was killed by a shrew.
 - A raven fell from the sky.
94. What happened to Duncan's horses?
- They were butchered for meat.
 - They refused to be ridden by anyone.
 - They ate each other.
 - They died from no apparent cause.
95. Who does Macduff say is being reported as arranging Duncan's murder?
- Macbeth.
 - No-one.
 - Malcolm and Donalbain.
 - Lady Macbeth.
96. According to Ross, who is likely to become king now?
- Macbeth.
 - Malcolm.
 - Donalbain.
 - Macduff.

97. Where has Macbeth gone?

- a. To Scone.
- b. Nowhere, he is still at the castle.
- c. To Forres.
- d. To England.

98. Where does Macduff go at this point?

- a. To Scone.
- b. To Fife.
- c. To England.
- d. To Dunsinane.

99. Which adjective is the least accurate in describing Macduff's comments in this scene?

- a. Cautious.
- b. Suspicious.
- c. Considered.
- d. Joyful.

100. In some respects, this scene is intended to illustrate how the Chain of Being has been disrupted. What is the Chain of Being?

- a. The idea that everyone belongs in a hierarchical order with the King below God near the top and that removing link causes chaos and destruction across the whole chain both in nature and society.
- b. The idea that things are all linked together and that we all play a part in a bigger story.
- c. The idea that committing a crime will inevitably result in imprisonment.
- d. A metaphor used to demonstrate that life and existence is only an outward expression of our souls which are only temporarily 'chained' to the material world.

Act 3, Scene 1

101. What does Banquo fear about Macbeth?
- That he has done terrible things to become king.
 - That he will murder him in turn.
 - That he will forget about their friendship.
 - That he will be a bad king.
102. What is Banquo going to do before the banquet?
- Nothing, he is going to wait.
 - Go for a walk with his son, Fleance.
 - Go for a horse ride with his son, Fleance.
 - Do some sparring with his son, Fleance.
103. What time is the banquet?
- 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
104. What does Macbeth mean when he says: "Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown, / And put a barren sceptre in my gripe"
- That becoming king has made him feel hollow and empty.
 - That he doesn't have any children who will inherit the throne from him.
 - That he is thankful for the witches' prophecy.
 - That he does not have any power as king.
105. Complete this line: "For Banquo's issue have I _____"
- filed my mind
 - done this deed
 - scorched my soul
 - murdered sweet sleep
106. What does Macbeth mean by saying: "mine eternal jewel / Given to the common enemy of man"?
- He has given lots of money to his enemies.
 - He has given his soul to Satan.
 - His wife has become evil.
 - He will be king until his death.
107. When Macbeth is talking to the First Murderer he claims that Banquo did what?
- Committed treason by plotting to kill Macbeth.
 - Killed Duncan.
 - Insulted and offended the murderer.
 - Prevented the murderer from gaining fortune.

108. Why doesn't Macbeth openly order Banquo's execution?
- Because he is worried that he doesn't have enough power to do so.
 - Because he worries that other lords would no longer support Macbeth's position.
 - Because he thinks Banquo does not deserve any dignity in death.
 - Because he worries that people will connect this to the murder of Duncan.
109. What does Macbeth specify in relation to Fleance?
- That he should also be murdered.
 - That he is indifferent to what happens to Fleance.
 - That he should be allowed to escape and run away.
 - That he should be kidnapped and secretly imprisoned.
110. Why does Macbeth order Banquo and Fleance's murder?
- Because he hates them.
 - Because he worries that Banquo knows what he has done and has told Fleance as well.
 - Because he wants to stop the witches' prophecy of Banquo's sons being kings.
 - Because he has gone insane.

Act 3, Scene 2

111. What's the missing word here: "We have scotch'd the _____, not kill'd it"?
- snake
 - Rat
 - Serpent
 - Lizard
112. What does Macbeth reveal that both himself and Lady Macbeth are suffering from?
- A horrible disease.
 - A loss of love.
 - Terrible dreams.
 - Nothing.
113. What's the missing word here: "O, full of _____ is my mind, dear wife!"?
- Snakes
 - Scorpions
 - Hatred
 - Fears
114. We see quite a different side to Lady Macbeth in Act 3, Scene 2. Which describes this different side to her most accurately.
- She seems incredibly loving and maternal.
 - She seems even more bloodthirsty and vicious.
 - She seems more concerned and restrained.
 - She seems more conniving and manipulative.
115. When Lady Macbeth asks Macbeth "What's to be done?", how does he respond?
- He tells her the plan to kill Banquo.
 - He does not openly tell her about the plan to kill Banquo but heavily implies it.
 - He tells her to stop asking questions.
 - He tells her that nothing is to be done.
116. How many murderers are sent after Banquo and Fleance?
- 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

117. Why is there an extra murderer?
- Because Macbeth mistrusts the murderers and wants to ensure that the job is done properly.
 - Because the extra murderer hates Banquo.
 - Because someone will need to bury the bodies.
 - Because he brings word of a change in plan.
118. When the murderers attack, what does Banquo tell Fleance to do?
- Fight until his last breath.
 - Nothing (he is killed before he can speak).
 - Flee and one day possibly get revenge.
 - Hide and stay quiet.
119. What happens when the murderers attack?
- They kill Banquo and Fleance.
 - They kill Fleance but Banquo escapes.
 - They kill Banquo but Fleance escapes.
 - They are seen and both Banquo and Fleance escape.
120. What do the murderers decide to do at the end of the scene?
- Go for a drink.
 - Kill each other.
 - Report back to Macbeth.
 - Nothing.

Act 3, Scene 4

121. Where did the murderer leave Banquo?
- In a ditch.
 - In a grave.
 - In the woods.
 - In a river.
122. What does Macbeth mean by saying: "There the grown serpent lies; the worm that's fled / Hath nature that in time will venom breed"?
- You are lying to me and if you keep doing so it will end badly for you.
 - Banquo is dead; Fleance has run away and will in time become a threat.
 - Banquo is dead; Fleance has run away and will have children that will become kings.
 - There (in hell) Satan lies; running away from him will only make things worse.
123. Who is an unwelcome guest for Macbeth at the banquet?
- The ghost of Banquo.
 - The ghost of Duncan.
 - The ghost of Malcolm.
 - The ghost of Macduff.
124. Where does the ghost sit?
- In Macbeth's place.
 - In Banquo's place.
 - In Lady Macbeth's place.
 - Nowhere, it stands.
125. Complete this line: "Thou canst not say I did it: never shake / _____."
- Thy foul bloated corse.
 - Thy gory locks at me.
 - Thy fingers of bone.
 - Thy bloody face at me.
126. What other supernatural experience does Lady Macbeth dismissively refer to Macbeth having experienced.
- The witches' prophecy.
 - Macbeth hearing a voice saying he will sleep no more.
 - The dagger that led him to Duncan.
 - Macbeth being unable to wash his hands clean.

127. What are these a series of: "Prithee, see there! behold! look! lo!"?
- Exclamative imperatives.
 - Interrogative exclamatives.
 - Imperative interrogatives.
 - Compound phrases.
128. How does Lady Macbeth explain Macbeth's outbursts?
- She is unable to, she doesn't know what is happening.
 - She claims that he is often like this and it is just a passing fit.
 - She says that Macbeth is seeing a ghost.
 - She says that Macbeth is just extremely stressed and tired.
129. Complete this line: "It will have blood; they say, _____".
- blood will have blood
 - revenge will have blood
 - death will have blood
 - justice will have blood
130. What does Macbeth decide to do at the end of this scene?
- Nothing.
 - Kill Fleance.
 - Go to see the witches again.
 - Repent his sins.

Act 3, Scene 5 and Scene 6

131. Why is Hecate angry?
- Because Macbeth is not doing what she wants.
 - Because the witches did not involve her in dealing with Macbeth.
 - Because she is damned to hell for all eternity.
 - Because she has lost her power.
132. What does Hecate call Macbeth?
- “a wayward son”.
 - “a damned soul”.
 - “an impudent mortal.”
 - “Archeron”.
133. What does Hecate intend to do with Macbeth?
- Nothing.
 - Confuse and trick him.
 - Kill him.
 - Tell him to give up the throne.
134. Act 3, Scene 5 is often cut from productions of Macbeth. Which is not a valid reason as to why this is?
- It is considered un-Shakespearean and there are some doubts as to whether it was part of the original script.
 - It neither adds dramatically or directly to the central plot.
 - The scene doesn't make sense and is too long and complicated.
 - The character of Hecate is mostly unnecessary and arguably over-simplifies the role of the witches.
135. When Lennox says, “men must not walk too late”, what is he implying?
- That Scotland is becoming increasingly dangerous.
 - That no-one should test their resolve too far.
 - That men should not overtire themselves.
 - That people should leave Scotland now.
136. In his speech, how does Lennox first seem?
- Deeply angry about all of the murders which have happened recently.
 - Profoundly upset about the murders which have happened recently.
 - Careful to not be openly treasonous to Macbeth.
 - Careful to be emphatically supportive of Macbeth's rule.

137. Who is "pious Edward"?
- One of Duncan's sons.
 - An expression to mean anyone who appears religious but is actually not.
 - The king of England.
 - The Lord who speaks to Lennox.
138. Where has Macduff gone?
- To Fife to be with his wife and child.
 - To England to gather an army to attack Macbeth.
 - To Dunsinane to kill Macbeth.
 - To the witches to seek their prophecies.
139. Macbeth is called a tyrant by Lennox and the Lord. What is this?
- A weak and unstable king.
 - An unassailable and powerful figure.
 - A good and honest king.
 - A cruel and oppressive ruler.
140. What does Lennox suggest Macduff should be advised to do?
- Spend as much time as possible gathering forces to take on Macbeth.
 - Return soon so that he can take on Macbeth.
 - Stay put and do nothing.
 - Run away.

Act 4, Scene 1

141. At the start of this scene, the witches are putting ingredients in a boiling cauldron. What is not one of these ingredients?
- A snake's tongue.
 - The finger of a baby killed at birth.
 - The wings of a bat.
 - The stomach and throat of a shark.
142. The first apparition is an armed head, which one of the interpretations is not valid?
- It foreshadows Macbeth's own head being decapitated.
 - It represents how war results in the head of state being removed.
 - It symbolises how Macduff will attack him armed and at the head of an army.
 - It implies that Macbeth needs to put his armour on to protect himself.
143. What does the first apparition tell Macbeth?
- Beware Macduff.
 - To kill Macduff.
 - To kill Macduff and his family.
 - To leave magic alone.
144. The second apparition is a bloody child. Which interpretation is not valid?
- The child represents Macbeth's own dead child.
 - The child represents Malcolm.
 - The child represents the murders that Macbeth will carry out on Macduff's defenceless children.
 - The child represents Macduff's birth through caesarean section.
145. What does the second apparition tell Macbeth?
- That no-one can hurt him.
 - That he is immortal.
 - That no-one who was given birth to by a woman can harm him.
 - That he should laugh at people.
146. Who is the third apparition likely to be symbolic of?
- Malcolm.
 - Macbeth.
 - Macduff.
 - Duncan.

147. What does the third apparition tell Macbeth?
- That he will be defeated by a wood.
 - That he will not be defeated until Malcolm's army comes to fight him.
 - That he will not be defeated until Birnam wood comes to Dunsinane.
 - That he will not be defeated until Dunsinane goes to Birnam wood.
148. After the three apparitions, Macbeth demands to be shown more. What does he see?
- A dagger.
 - Nothing, they refuse to show him anything.
 - His own death.
 - A line of Banquo's sons as kings.
149. What does Macbeth mean when he says: "The very firstlings of my heart shall be The firstlings of my hand."?
- That when he wants to do something, he will do it immediately.
 - That those close to him will be kept safe.
 - That the loyal soldiers of Scotland will protect him in battle.
 - That he will act out of love.
150. What does Macbeth decide to do at the end of this scene?
- Send murderers to kill Macduff.
 - Seize Macduff's castle and kill his entire family.
 - Seize Macduff's castle and keep his family hostage.
 - Fortify his forces to ensure that he remains safe.

Act 4, Scene 2

151. How does Macduff's wife feel about Macduff leaving for England?
- She is supportive of him trying to oust Macbeth.
 - She is concerned for his safety.
 - She is angry and worried that his running away will endanger them by making them look like traitors.
 - She is upset and distraught about him as she knows that he loves her and so is bewildered that he would leave them.
152. What is Ross' opinion of Macduff?
- That he is a fool for leaving his castle and wife.
 - He says that he does not know him well enough to know why he has done what he has done.
 - He says that he is a good, sensible man but that he cannot explain exactly why Macduff has done what he has done.
 - He hates him and thinks that Macduff is a traitor.
153. What does Lady Macduff tell her son about his father?
- That he is dead.
 - That he is brave.
 - That he has left but will soon return.
 - That he is loyal to Macbeth.
154. When her son asks if Macduff was a traitor, how does Lady Macduff respond?
- Ay, that he was.
 - Nay, little bird.
 - Foolish thing to ask such!
 - He was your father.
155. How does Lady Macduff define a traitor?
- Someone that betrays the king.
 - Someone that doesn't do what she wants.
 - Someone who swears and lies.
 - Someone who is foolish.

156. Following Lady Macduff's definition, what does the son say about traitors being hanged?
- That it is a good idea.
 - That because there are more traitors than honest men, the traitors are foolish to let themselves be hanged and should instead hang the honest men.
 - That because it is difficult to tell who traitors are it is better to simply hang everyone and then let God decide.
 - That he does not think anyone should be hanged because it is a terrible punishment and does not stop anyone being a traitor in the first place.
157. When Lady Macduff is informed that danger is approaching her, she says that she has done no harm but what does she say after this?
- That in this world doing bad deeds can be celebrated whereas doing good things can be a mistake.
 - That she doesn't understand why anyone would want to do her harm.
 - That she hopes her husband will return to save her.
 - That she is sure that as long as she is good and honest with them, no danger will come to her.
158. Complete this line: "What, you ____!"
- Egg
 - Fry
 - Villain
 - Pest
159. What happens to Lady Macduff and her son at the end of this scene?
- They are both murdered.
 - They run away.
 - Lady Macduff is murdered, her son escapes.
 - The son is murdered, Lady Macduff runs but is pursued and presumably killed.
160. What is not a viable purpose for this scene?
- It acts as a catalyst to solidify Macduff's desire to kill Macbeth.
 - It serves to emphasise the brutal depths of Macbeth's tyranny.
 - It demonstrates the innate morality of men.
 - It highlights the lack of Macbeth's own children through the inclusion of one.

Act 4, Scene 3

161. When Malcolm says: "To offer up a weak, poor, innocent lamb / T' appease an angry god.", what does he mean?
- That Macduff might kill him.
 - That Macduff might betray him to Macbeth.
 - That Macduff won't be strong enough to fight Macbeth.
 - That he is too weak to take on Macbeth.
162. When Macduff says: "Bleed, bleed, poor country!" What device is this?
- Simile.
 - Allegory.
 - Animal imagery.
 - Personification.
163. When Malcolm discusses his "confineless harms", what is he appearing to do?
- Say that he would be a worse ruler than Macbeth.
 - Say that he will destroy Macbeth.
 - Say that he will not be able to stop innocent people being hurt.
 - Say that he will not stop with Macbeth but will kill everyone who supported him, including Macduff.
164. What are the faults that Malcolm seems to admit to having?
- Being lustful, avaricious and incapable of being a just king.
 - Being lustful, vicious and driven only by hatred.
 - Being inexperienced, young and knowing nothing of war.
 - Being loving, kind and soft which he perceives as weaknesses in war.
165. Why does Malcolm admit to these faults?
- He wants to be open and honest with Macduff.
 - He does not give a reason.
 - He was testing Macduff to see if he truly wanted a good ruler for Scotland.
 - He does not believe that he should be king of Scotland.
166. What is King Edward doing during this scene?
- Planning his attack on Macbeth.
 - The scene makes no mention of his actions.
 - Healing the sick by laying hands upon them.
 - Writing letters.

167. When Macduff asks Ross after his wife and children, what is his initial response?
- a. He says that they have been killed.
 - b. He says that they are well.
 - c. He says nothing.
 - d. He carefully avoids answering the question clearly.
168. When Macduff is told that his family have been murdered, what does Malcolm advise him to do?
- a. Return to his home to grieve.
 - b. Take revenge on Macbeth to cure the pain.
 - c. Stay in England.
 - d. Take some medicine.
169. Complete this line by Macduff in reference to Macbeth: "He has no _____"
- a. soul.
 - b. children.
 - c. heart.
 - d. feeling.
170. How does the scene conclude?
- a. Malcolm despairs at their situation.
 - b. Macduff cries.
 - c. Malcolm says the army is ready to march on Macbeth.
 - d. Malcolm goes to plead further with King Edward for assistance.

Act 5, Scene 1

171. In this scene and according to the Gentlewoman's reports, what has Lady Macbeth been doing?
- Praying.
 - Sleepwalking.
 - Crying.
 - Going insane.
172. What does the Gentlewoman say she has overheard Lady Macbeth say?
- Nothing – she says that Lady Macbeth has not spoken.
 - She says she has heard her confess her crimes.
 - Nothing – she refuses to say what she has heard.
 - She says that she has just talked nonsense.
173. What has Lady Macbeth ordered to always have with her?
- A bell to summon servants with.
 - Materials for writing with.
 - A Light.
 - A dagger.
174. What action does Lady Macbeth seem to do when she arrives in this scene?
- Clutch at her clothing.
 - Wash her hands.
 - Cross herself.
 - Read and write something.
175. What is the missing word here: "Out, damned _____! Out, I say!"?
- Spot
 - Dark
 - Blood
 - Fool
176. Who is likely to be the "old man" that Lady Macbeth refers to?
- Her father.
 - Macbeth.
 - The Old Man in Act 3, Scene 4.
 - Duncan.

177. Lady Macbeth's speech is disordered and disrupted and sharply contrasts with her high level of control over language elsewhere in the play. In particular, the line: "The thane of Fife had a wife" uses internal rhyme which is both child-like and obvious. In terms of literary devices what is this 'bad poetry' called?
- Doggerel.
 - Limerick.
 - Blank verse.
 - Iambic pentameter.
178. What does Lady Macbeth directly or indirectly refer to?
- The witches and the banquet.
 - Killing Duncan, the slaughter of the Macduff's, Macbeth and her actions after Duncan's death and killing Banquo.
 - Reading Macbeth's letter, killing Duncan, washing her hands and killing Banquo.
 - Hearing bells, Hell, blood and the crown.
179. In light of the Doctor saying: "infected minds / To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets: / More needs she the divine than the physician", what is the least valid interpretation of this scene?
- It illustrates the mental breakdown of Lady Macbeth most likely due to her guilt.
 - It demonstrates the limitations of medicine at the time being unable to treat insomnia.
 - It provides proof of the Macbeth's guilt as the Doctor has "set down" her confessional words and has the supporting witness of the Gentlewoman.
 - It shows that Lady Macbeth is damned to hell for her actions.
180. What happens to Lady Macbeth after this scene?
- She commits suicide immediately.
 - Uncertain, she is not referred to again in the play and has no more dialogue.
 - She does not appear again but dies offstage which is later implied to be a suicide.
 - She returns to bed but then flees the castle in the morning.

Act 5, Scene 2 and Scene 3

181. In Act 5, Scene 2, complete this line: “now does he feel his title / Hang loose about him, _____”
- like a leaden weight / Upon a wizened crone.
 - like a crown of knives / Upon his bleeding scalp.
 - like Promethean chains / pecked into his skin.
 - like a giant's robe / Upon a dwarfish thief.
182. In Act 5, Scene 3, what does Macbeth say he does not want any more of?
- Reports from the field.
 - Armies to arrive.
 - Blood on his hands.
 - Witches words.
183. At the start of Act 5, Scene 3, following on from his meeting with the witches, what best describes Macbeth’s attitude?
- Arrogant, foolhardy and reckless.
 - Bitter, vengeful and hateful.
 - Cold, aloof and withdrawn.
 - Comical, cheerful and amiable.
184. When the servant says there are 10,000. What does Macbeth question there are 10,000 of?
- Soldiers.
 - Geese.
 - Horses.
 - Traitors.
185. Macbeth calls for “Seyton”. His name sounds like ‘Satan’ which means that one of the last people to help Macbeth (put on his armour) is linked to the devil. What is the most accurate literary description of this?
- The sibilant word “Seyton” implies Macbeth is linked to the devil.
 - The homophonic quality of “Seyton” solidifies Macbeth’s damned state.
 - The homograph “Seyton” suggests that Macbeth is being helped by Satan.
 - “Seyton” is the personification of the lord of Hell.
186. Complete this line: “I'll fight till _____”.
- from my bones my flesh be hack'd.
 - my last embittered breath.
 - the very soil broils with their blood.
 - the last.

187. Macbeth demands something of Seyton, what is it?
- A way to escape.
 - His armour.
 - To send a murderer after Malcolm.
 - To secure the castle.
188. What does Macbeth ask of the doctor?
- To flee and save himself.
 - To be near to tend to his wounds from battle.
 - Whether there is a treatment which can remove memory.
 - To not speak to anyone about Lady Macbeth.
189. What are the Thanes doing?
- Fleeing and deserting Macbeth.
 - Continuing their support of Macbeth.
 - Killing one another.
 - Plotting treachery against Macbeth.
190. Towards the end of this scene but also at the start, what does Macbeth reassure himself with?
- The fact that he is a strong warrior and has won many battles.
 - The witches' prophecies.
 - The belief that Malcolm commands a weaker force than appears to be the case.
 - The knowledge that his castle has never been taken.

Act 5, Scenes 4, 5, (6) and 7

191. How is part of the witches' prophecy fulfilled in Act 5, Scene 4?
- Malcolm orders a messenger to deliver a final demand for Macbeth's surrender to Dunsinane. In order to not be killed on his way, the messenger bears a branch of an oak tree from Birnam wood which is dipped white.
 - Birnam wood supernaturally moves towards Dunsinane.
 - Malcolm orders the soldiers to cut down branches of Birnam wood and carry these before them to conceal their numbers.
 - Malcolm sets fire to Birnam wood, its ash blows over Dunsinane concealing their approach.
192. In Act 5, Scene 5, what does Macbeth say he had almost forgotten?
- To see his wife.
 - What it felt like to fear anything.
 - That he had murdered Duncan.
 - That there were invading forces at his castle.
193. In Act 5, Scene 5, who dies?
- Lady Macbeth.
 - Seyton.
 - Macbeth.
 - Macduff.
194. In Macbeth's "To-morrow" speech, many central themes and motifs in Macbeth are brought into focus. Which thematic concept is not touched upon?
- The irrevocable passing of time.
 - The nature of acting and pretense.
 - The recurring motif of blood.
 - The contrasts between light and dark.
195. In Act 5, Scene 5, which aspect of the witches' prophecy does Macbeth realise is being fulfilled?
- That he should beware Macduff.
 - That he will never be defeated until Birnam wood comes to Dunsinane.
 - That none of woman born shall harm Macbeth.
 - That Banquo's sons shall be kings.

196. What does Macbeth mean when he says: "At least we'll die with harness on our back."
- At least we'll die in control of ourselves (through our own volition).
 - At least we'll die with armour on (fighting).
 - At least we'll die know that we don't have a choice – we have to keep fighting (due to Malcolm's forces cornering them).
 - At least we'll die knowing we'll go to heaven (as in the harness is a metaphor for them being pulled up to heaven when they die).
197. In Act 5, Scene 7, despite realising that the prophecy is being fulfilled. What does Macbeth cling to?
- The idea that none of woman born can harm him.
 - The fact that he is a strong warrior.
 - The belief that he is immortal.
 - His rage and anger.
198. In Act 5, Scene 7, who dies?
- Macbeth.
 - Macduff.
 - Young Siward.
 - (Old) Siward.
199. In Act 5, Scene 7, what does Macduff say he will do during the battle?
- Only kill Macbeth and no-one else.
 - Kill everyone and anyone who stands in his way to get to Macbeth.
 - Protect Malcolm.
 - Kill Lady Macbeth in revenge for the murder of his wife by Macbeth.
200. In Act 5, Scene 7, when Malcolm, Macduff and Siward enter the battle, what do they find?
- That Macbeth's forces are stronger than they expected.
 - That there is little to do as Macbeth's forces are switching sides.
 - That Macbeth's forces have all killed each other and none remain.
 - That no-one can kill Macbeth.

Act 5, Scene 8 (in some versions there is also a 9th scene)

201. What is Macbeth saying when he questions “Why should I play the Roman fool”?
- He is rejecting the idea that he would ever commit suicide like Roman generals did when their forces lost.
 - He is angry about being ignorant like Julius Caesar not realising he would be assassinated.
 - He is refusing to play a part like a play and be someone who just does what people ask him to.
 - He is interrogating the logic around why anyone would surrender.
202. What is the missing word here “Turn, _____, turn!”.
- Villain
 - hell-hound
 - Fiend
 - Devil
203. What does Macbeth mean by saying: “my soul is too much charged / With blood of thine already.”
- I am easily able to kill you, like your family.
 - I have already killed too many of your family.
 - My soul is fueled by the murders I have done.
 - There has been too much death today.
204. What does Macduff reveal which fulfills the witches’ prophecy?
- That his mother underwent caesarean section and therefore he was not ‘born’.
 - That he was not born.
 - That he is actually Banquo’s son.
 - That he was an illegitimate child and the identity of his mother was unknown, hence he was not ‘born’ of any particular woman.
205. Upon learning that the witches’ prophecies are complete. What does Macbeth do?
- He initially refuses to fight but after Macduff demands that he surrender, he refuses and so continues fighting.
 - He surrenders.
 - He initially refuses to fight but after Macduff demands that he surrender, he flees.
 - He continues fighting regardless.

206. In some stage directions for Macbeth, they indicate that Macbeth is killed on stage. In others, he exits the stage and his death is not seen. Why might Shakespeare have not presented Macbeth's death on stage?
- Because Shakespeare didn't like showing action and violence.
 - Because there is too much death in the play as it is.
 - Because there are already too many bodies on stage.
 - Despite his illegitimacy, like Duncan, he was still a king and it was considered unpalatable to depict the murder of a king.
207. What does Ross tell Siward?
- That Macbeth is dead.
 - That Young Siward (his son) is dead.
 - That Young Siward (his son) owes a debt to Ross.
 - That he (Ross) is dying.
208. What does Macduff bring to Malcolm?
- Macbeth's crown.
 - Macbeth's severed head.
 - Macbeth's sword.
 - Macbeth's robes.
209. What is Malcolm's first decree as king of Scotland?
- He declares that all of the thanes should now be earls.
 - He decrees that everyone should be free.
 - He declares that Macbeth's name should be struck from history.
 - He bans witchcraft.
210. What does Malcolm say Lady Macbeth was thought to have done?
- Made a deal with the devil.
 - Killed Duncan.
 - Fled.
 - Committed suicide.
211. How is the witches' prophecy fully realised?
- Fleance is actually Malcolm's son and will inherit the throne.
 - It is unclear but presumably Fleance's descendants eventually inherit the throne.
 - Malcolm is actually Banquo's son.
 - It is heavily implied that (since the witches lied all along) the idea that Banquo's sons would be kings was false.

II. Context Quiz

20 credits available for answering all questions.

1. Who was on the throne when Macbeth was written?
2. Many people believed in witches during Shakespearean times, true or false?
3. How were women generally perceived in relation to men?
4. Macbeth was actually a real historical figure, true or false?
5. What historical source material did Shakespeare draw upon for his play?
6. What was the idea of the Chain of Being?

III. Major Characters

20 credits available for answering all questions.

1. Who is the eponymous character in Macbeth?
2. Which character is best described as cunning, persuasive, powerful and duplicitous?
3. Which character is depicted as an honourable king?
4. Which character originally fought alongside Macbeth and was supposedly King James I's ancestor?
5. Which character is best described variously as brave, ambitious, naive, uncertain and rash?
6. Which characters call upon spirits?
7. Which characters are described as having beards?

8. Which character seeks revenge for the murder of his family?

9. Which character is the rightful heir to Scotland?

10. Which character apparently commits suicide?

IV. Minor Characters

30 Credits available for answering all questions.

1. Who is Sweno?
2. Who is Sinel?
3. What is the name of the rebel that Macbeth kills in battle?
4. Who tells Macbeth that he is 'Thane of Cawdor'?
5. Who is Donalbain?
6. Who lets Macduff and Lennox into Macbeth's castle following Duncan's murder?
7. Which child is actually seen being killed by murderers under Macbeth's direction?
8. Who is Edward?
9. Who tells Macbeth that his wife is dead?
10. Who is Malcolm's uncle, the Earl of Northumberland?

V. Thematic and Idea-Based Questions

10 Credits available per question

You may find that there are more answers to these questions than are provided below. Speak to your teacher if you are uncertain.

1. Explain two ways that the motif of insomnia is presented in Macbeth?
2. Identify three parts of the play in which the motif of blood is used.
3. How is equivocation shown in the play?
4. Identify two ways that the Macbeths are duplicitous.
5. Identify three deaths referred to or shown in the play.
6. What are three supernatural aspects to the play?
7. Identify three ways in which the guilt of the Macbeths is expressed.
8. Identify a moment of doubt in the play.
9. Identify an explicit reference to "hell" in the play.
10. Identify three parts of the play where the idea of masculinity is manipulated.

VI. Wider Reading

Read the link provided and complete the task assigned in a short essay response – these can then be used within your essays on the texts.

For each task that you complete you will gain 150 credits.

1. <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/witches-in-macbeth>

<https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/character-analysis-the-witches-in-macbeth>

Read the two articles – use this information to write an explanation of the significance of the witches in Macbeth.

2. <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/manhood-and-the-milk-of-human-kindness-in-macbeth>

Read the article – use this information to write an essay in response to the question: To what extent is the central concern of Macbeth the idea of masculinity?

3. <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/character-analysis-lady-macbeth>

<https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/unsex-me-here-lady-macbeths-hell-broth>

Read the articles – use this information to write an essay in response to the question: To what extent is the role of Lady Macbeth a subversion of Jacobean ideals of femininity?

4. <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/conjuring-darkness-in-macbeth>

Read this article – use this information to write an explanation of how darkness is used as a motif throughout Macbeth.

5. <http://www.shakespeare-online.com/plays/macbeth/jamescompliments.html>

<http://www.historyextra.com/article/culture/shakespeare-macbeth-king-james-witch-hunts>

Read these articles – using this information, write an explanation of the influences James I being king would have had upon The Tragedy of Macbeth.

6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clG8ha2D26g>

Watch this video presenting three different directors' interpretations of the witches. Write down an explanation of how altering the presentation of the witches impacts upon our view of their role in the play.

7. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgH_OnrYlCk

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2015/may/23/macbeth-review-fassbender-and-cotillard-full-of-sound-and-fury-in-significant-shakespeare-adaptation>

Watch this trailer for the 2015 film of Macbeth and read the review of the film. Write an explanation of how this version differs from a more traditional staging of the play and the impacts that this would have upon how we interpret its meanings.

8. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00qb5sk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FT9ciEETTDY>

Watch these two different versions of Act 5, Scene 1. Write out a consideration of the impact of removing the Gentlewoman and Doctor from the scene and the inclusion of the addressed in the Marion Cotillard version.

9. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/bsdCx8bV7F3NBX5N67YdZc/macbeth>

Watch a variety of these clips showing both scenes from Macbeth and actors rehearsing and discussing various key scenes. Write out an explanation of how you would stage Macbeth giving detailed reasons for your presentation of key scenes (include references to the text).

10. <http://www.theamericanconservative.com/millman/a-macbeth-that-believes-in-witches/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/22/theater/reviews/macbeth-with-ethan-hawke-at-the-vivian-beaumont.html>

Read these two contrasting reviews of the same production of Macbeth. Write an explanation of how different people can have different interpretations of the central meanings in Macbeth.

More Further reading for Macbeth:

<http://www.shakespeare-online.com/plays/macbethscenes.html>

- Look at the related resources for a wealth of information.

<https://www.bl.uk/works/macbeth>

- Look at related articles and search the website for many resources.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/bsdCx8bV7F3NBX5N67YdZc/macbeth>

- A variety of excellent videos and interviews with actors.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGwtchkiPiE>

- The full Rupert Goold (Patrick Stewart) version of Macbeth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGbZCgHQ9m8>

- Ian McKellen doing an actor's workshop centring on the 'Tomorrow' speech (unfortunately not great video quality but some superb insights – ironically, his delivery in the filmed version of the play isn't actually that great (in my humble opinion)).

<http://shakespeare.mit.edu/>

- The complete works of Shakespeare online – recommended plays for connections: Hamlet, Antony and Cleopatra, King Lear, Richard III and The Tempest and the poem – The Rape of Lucrece.

<http://nfs.sparknotes.com/macbeth/>

- Original text alongside a standard English translation (with additional notes).

<https://genius.com/albums/William-shakespeare/Macbeth>

- Text of Macbeth with detailed and lengthy annotations

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfnUq2_0FOY

- Animated Tales version of Macbeth – good for quick summaries of the plot.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature/dramamacbeth/

- Relatively generic revision resources for Macbeth.

<http://www.shakespeare-navigators.com/macbeth/SelectedBibliographyIndex.html>

- A relatively comprehensive list of outlines/reviews and citations of literary criticism of Macbeth

VII. Exam Style Questions

AQA Style

100 credits available for each question plus 20 bonus credits for marking your own essay.

How to revise using this:

- **Read** through each of the extract
- **Annotate** the extracts for key **features/terms**.
- **Plan** responses to the questions.
- **Write** responses to the questions.
- **Mark** your responses using the mark schemes at the end of the anthology.

Remember, you are assessed upon:

A01: Your ability to read and respond to texts.

A02: How well you analyse language, structure and form.

A03: Your understanding of the influences of context.

A04: Your use of a range of vocabulary and sentence structures and the accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

1. **Macbeth – from Act 1 Scene 5**

In this extract, Lady Macbeth learns that Duncan will be coming to Macbeth's castle.

MACBETH

My dearest love,
Duncan comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH

And when goes hence?

MACBETH

To-morrow, as he purposes.

LADY MACBETH

O, never
Shall sun that morrow see!
Your face, my thane, is as a book where men
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,
Your hand, your tongue: look like the innocent flower,
But be the serpent under't. He that's coming
Must be provided for: and you shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch;
Which shall to all our nights and days to come
Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom.

MACBETH

We will speak further.

Starting with this speech, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as an immoral woman.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this exchange
- how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)
AO4 (4 marks)

2. Macbeth – from Act 1 Scene 7

In this speech, Macbeth considers the plot to kill Duncan.

MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well
It were done quickly: if the assassination
Could trammel up the consequence, and catch
With his surcease success; that but this blow
Might be the be-all and the end-all here,
But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,
We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases
We still have judgment here; that we but teach
Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return
To plague the inventor: this even-handed justice
Commends the ingredients of our poison'd chalice
To our own lips. He's here in double trust;
First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,
Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,
Who should against his murderer shut the door,
Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan
Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against
The deep damnation of his taking-off;
And pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubim, horsed
Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on the other.

Starting with this speech, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a conflicted character.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in this speech
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)
AO4 (4 marks)

3. Macbeth – from Act 2 Scene 2

In this extract, Macbeth has just murdered Duncan and he meets with Lady Macbeth.

MACBETH

One cried 'God bless us!' and 'Amen' the other;
As they had seen me with these hangman's hands.
Listening their fear, I could not say 'Amen,'
When they did say 'God bless us!'

LADY MACBETH

Consider it not so deeply.

MACBETH

But wherefore could not I pronounce 'Amen'?
I had most need of blessing, and 'Amen'
Stuck in my throat.

LADY MACBETH

These deeds must not be thought
After these ways; so, it will make us mad.

MACBETH

Methought I heard a voice cry 'Sleep no more!
Macbeth does murder sleep', the innocent sleep,
Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,
The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,
Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course,
Chief nourisher in life's feast,--

LADY MACBETH

What do you mean?

MACBETH

Still it cried 'Sleep no more!' to all the house:
'Glamis hath murder'd sleep, and therefore Cawdor
Shall sleep no more; Macbeth shall sleep no more.'

Starting with this exchange, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth as suffering from madness.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in this exchange
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)
AO4 (4 marks)

4. Macbeth – from Act 2 Scene 3

In this extract, Duncan's murder has been discovered by Macduff and the rest of the castle is being awoken to be told the news.

MACDUFF

Your royal father 's murder'd.

MALCOLM

O, by whom?

LENNOX

Those of his chamber, as it seem'd, had done 't:
Their hands and faces were an badged with blood;
So were their daggers, which unwiped we found
Upon their pillows:
They stared, and were distracted; no man's life
Was to be trusted with them.

MACBETH

O, yet I do repent me of my fury,
That I did kill them.

MACDUFF

Wherefore did you so?

MACBETH

Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious,
Loyal and neutral, in a moment? No man:
The expedition my violent love
Outrun the pauser, reason. Here lay Duncan,
His silver skin laced with his golden blood;
And his gash'd stabs look'd like a breach in nature
For ruin's wasteful entrance: there, the murderers,
Steep'd in the colours of their trade, their daggers
Unmannerly breech'd with gore: who could refrain,
That had a heart to love, and in that heart
Courage to make 's love known?

LADY MACBETH

Help me hence, ho!

Starting with this exchange, explain how you think Shakespeare presents deceit in Macbeth.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents deceit in this exchange
- how Shakespeare presents deceit in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)
AO4 (4 marks)

5. Macbeth – from Act 3 Scene 2

In this extract, Lady Macbeth talks with Macbeth in preparation for their banquet.

MACBETH

So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you:
Let your remembrance apply to Banquo;
Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue:
Unsafe the while, that we
Must lave our honours in these flattering streams,
And make our faces vizards to our hearts,
Disguising what they are.

LADY MACBETH

You must leave this.

MACBETH

O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!
Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, lives.

LADY MACBETH

But in them nature's copy's not eterne.

MACBETH

There's comfort yet; they are assailable;
Then be thou jocund: ere the bat hath flown
His cloister'd flight, ere to black Hecate's summons
The shard-borne beetle with his drowsy hums
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done
A deed of dreadful note.

LADY MACBETH

What's to be done?

MACBETH

Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck,
Till thou applaud the deed.

Starting with this speech, explain how you think Shakespeare presents the idea of obsession.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents obsession in this exchange
- how Shakespeare presents obsession in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)

AO4 (4 marks)

6. **Macbeth – from Act 3 Scene 2**

In this extract, Macbeth sees the ghost of Banquo sitting at the banquet table.

MACBETH

Which of you have done this?

Lords

What, my good lord?

MACBETH

Thou canst not say I did it: never shake

Thy gory locks at me.

ROSS

Gentlemen, rise: his highness is not well.

LADY MACBETH

Sit, worthy friends: my lord is often thus,

And hath been from his youth: pray you, keep seat;

The fit is momentary; upon a thought

He will again be well: if much you note him,

You shall offend him and extend his passion:

Feed, and regard him not. Are you a man?

MACBETH

Ay, and a bold one, that dare look on that

Which might appal the devil.

LADY MACBETH

O proper stuff!

This is the very painting of your fear:

This is the air-drawn dagger which, you said,

Led you to Duncan. O, these flaws and starts,

Impostors to true fear, would well become

A woman's story at a winter's fire,

Authorized by her grandam. Shame itself!

Why do you make such faces? When all's done,

You look but on a stool.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents the theme of the supernatural.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents supernatural ideas in this exchange
- how Shakespeare presents the supernatural in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)

AO4 (4 marks)

7. Macbeth – from Act 4 Scene 1

In this extract, Macbeth has gone to visit the witches and they show him apparitions.

Second Apparition

Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn
The power of man, for none of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth.

Descends

MACBETH

Then live, Macduff: what need I fear of thee?
But yet I'll make assurance double sure,
And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live;
That I may tell pale-hearted fear it lies,
And sleep in spite of thunder.

Thunder. Third Apparition: a Child crowned, with a tree in his hand

What is this
That rises like the issue of a king,
And wears upon his baby-brow the round
And top of sovereignty?

ALL

Listen, but speak not to't.

Third Apparition

Be lion-mettled, proud; and take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are:
Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.

Descends

MACBETH

That will never be
Who can impress the forest, bid the tree
Unfix his earth-bound root? Sweet bodements! good!

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents the prophecies as responsible for Macbeth's downfall.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's reactions to the prophecies
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's actions in response to the witches in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)
AO4 (4 marks)

8. Macbeth – from Act 4 Scene 3

In this extract, Macduff is speaking with Malcolm in England. Macduff has just received news that Macbeth has killed his wife and children.

MACDUFF

He has no children. All my pretty ones?
Did you say all? O hell-kite! All?
What, all my pretty chickens and their dam
At one fell swoop?

MALCOLM

Dispute it like a man.

MACDUFF

I shall do so;
But I must also feel it as a man:
I cannot but remember such things were,
That were most precious to me. Did heaven look on,
And would not take their part? Sinful Macduff,
They were all struck for thee! naught that I am,
Not for their own demerits, but for mine,
Fell slaughter on their souls. Heaven rest them now!

MALCOLM

Be this the whetstone of your sword: let grief
Convert to anger; blunt not the heart, enrage it.

MACDUFF

O, I could play the woman with mine eyes
And braggart with my tongue! But, gentle heavens,
Cut short all intermission; front to front
Bring thou this fiend of Scotland and myself;
Within my sword's length set him; if he 'scape,
Heaven forgive him too!

Starting with this extract, explain how Shakespeare presents masculinity in the play.
Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents masculinity in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents masculinity in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)

AO4 (4 marks)

9. Macbeth – from Act 5, Scene 1

In this extract, Lady Macbeth is sleepwalking and being overheard by a doctor and a gentlewoman.

LADY MACBETH

Out, damned spot! out, I say!--One: two: why, then, 'tis time to do't.--Hell is murky!--Fie, my lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to account?--Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him.

Doctor

Do you mark that?

LADY MACBETH

The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now?--What, will these hands ne'er be clean?--No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with this starting.

Doctor

Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

Gentlewoman

She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of that: heaven knows what she has known.

LADY MACBETH

Here's the smell of the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh!

Starting with this extract, explain how Shakespeare presents guilt.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents guilt in this extract.
- how Shakespeare presents guilt in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)

AO4 (4 marks)

10. Macbeth – from Act 5 Scene 5

In this extract, Macbeth's castle is about to be attacked by the English and he receives news that his wife has just died.

MACBETH

I have almost forgot the taste of fears;
The time has been, my senses would have cool'd
To hear a night-shriek; and my fell of hair
Would at a dismal treatise rouse and stir
As life were in't: I have supp'd full with horrors;
Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts
Cannot once start me.

Re-enter SEYTON

Wherefore was that cry?

SEYTON

The queen, my lord, is dead.

MACBETH

She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word.
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
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.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a character that we should feel sorry for.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in this extract.
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in the play as a whole.

(30 marks)

AO4 (4 marks)

Edexcel Style

100 credits plus 20 bonus credits for marking your own.

How to revise using this:

- **Read** through the extract
- **Annotate** the extracts for key **features/terms**.
- **Plan** responses to the questions.
- **Write** responses to the questions.
- **Mark** your responses using the mark schemes at the end of the resource

Key advice:

Section A)

- Section A of the question: only write about the extract.
- Make sure you use quotations throughout.
- Write a range of points (at least **three**).

Section B)

- **DO NOT** write about the extract – write about **elsewhere** in the play.
- Refer to **at least three** different parts of the play but do not panic about getting quotations perfect.
- Include **context** – what was happening at the time such as fears about witchcraft and James 1's obsession with it, the audience's views on religion, the idea of the Chain of Being, views of women's expected behaviour or roles in the Jacobean era, the gunpowder plot, etc.

1. Macbeth – from Act 1 Scene 5

In this extract, Lady Macbeth learns that Duncan will be coming to Macbeth's castle.

LADY MACBETH

The raven himself is hoarse
That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan
Under my battlements. Come, you spirits
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,
And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full
Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood;
Stop up the access and passage to remorse,
That no compunctious visitings of nature
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between
The effect and it! Come to my woman's breasts,
And take my milk for gall, you murdering ministers,
Wherever in your sightless substances
You wait on nature's mischief! Come, thick night,
And pall thee in the dunnest smoke of hell,
That my keen knife see not the wound it makes,
Nor heaven peep through the blanket of the dark,
To cry 'Hold, hold!'

Enter MACBETH

Great Glamis! worthy Cawdor!
Greater than both, by the all-hail hereafter!
Thy letters have transported me beyond
This ignorant present, and I feel now
The future in the instant.

MACBETH

My dearest love,
Duncan comes here to-night.

LADY MACBETH

And when goes hence?

MACBETH

To-morrow, as he purposes.

LADY MACBETH

O, never
Shall sun that morrow see!
Your face, my thane, is as a book where men
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,
Your hand, your tongue: look like the innocent flower,
But be the serpent under't. He that's coming
Must be provided for: and you shall put
This night's great business into my dispatch;

Which shall to all our nights and days to come
Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom.

MACBETH

We will speak further.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as immoral.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Lady Macbeth calls upon supernatural forces.
Explain the importance of supernatural forces **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- where supernatural forces are shown
- how supernatural forces affect those involved.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

2. Macbeth – from Act 1 Scene 7

In this extract, Macbeth speaks with Lady Macbeth.

MACBETH

I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on the other.

Enter LADY MACBETH

How now! what news?

LADY MACBETH

He has almost supp'd: why have you left the chamber?

MACBETH

Hath he ask'd for me?

LADY MACBETH

Know you not he has?

MACBETH

We will proceed no further in this business:
He hath honour'd me of late; and I have bought
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,
Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,
Not cast aside so soon.

LADY MACBETH

Was the hope drunk
Wherein you dress'd yourself? hath it slept since?
And wakes it now, to look so green and pale
At what it did so freely? From this time
Such I account thy love. Art thou afraid
To be the same in thine own act and valour
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,
And live a coward in thine own esteem,
Letting 'I dare not' wait upon 'I would,'
Like the poor cat i' the adage?

MACBETH

Prithee, peace:
I dare do all that may become a man;
Who dares do more is none.

LADY MACBETH

What beast was't, then,
That made you break this enterprise to me?
When you durst do it, then you were a man;
And, to be more than what you were, you would

Be so much more the man. Nor time nor place
Did then adhere, and yet you would make both:
They have made themselves, and that their fitness now
Does unmake you. I have given suck, and know
How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me:
I would, while it was smiling in my face,
Have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless gums,
And dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn as you
Have done to this.

MACBETH

If we should fail?

LADY MACBETH

We fail!

But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we'll not fail.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as being persuasive.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Lady Macbeth is manipulative.
Explain the importance of manipulation **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when manipulation is shown
- the reasons for manipulation.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

3. Macbeth – from Act 2 Scene 2

In this extract, Macbeth has just murdered Duncan and he meets with Lady Macbeth.

MACBETH

I have done the deed. Didst thou not hear a noise?

LADY MACBETH

I heard the owl scream and the crickets cry.
Did not you speak?

MACBETH

When?

LADY MACBETH

Now.

MACBETH

As I descended?

LADY MACBETH

Ay.

MACBETH

Hark!
Who lies i' the second chamber?

LADY MACBETH

Donalbain.

MACBETH

This is a sorry sight.

Looking on his hands

LADY MACBETH

A foolish thought, to say a sorry sight.

MACBETH

There's one did laugh in's sleep, and one cried
'Murder!'
That they did wake each other: I stood and heard them:
But they did say their prayers, and address'd them
Again to sleep.

LADY MACBETH

There are two lodged together.

MACBETH

One cried 'God bless us!' and 'Amen' the other;
As they had seen me with these hangman's hands.
Listening their fear, I could not say 'Amen,'
When they did say 'God bless us!'

LADY MACBETH

Consider it not so deeply.

MACBETH

But wherefore could not I pronounce 'Amen'?
I had most need of blessing, and 'Amen'
Stuck in my throat.

LADY MACBETH

These deeds must not be thought
After these ways; so, it will make us mad.

MACBETH

Methought I heard a voice cry 'Sleep no more!
Macbeth does murder sleep', the innocent sleep,
Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care,
The death of each day's life, sore labour's bath,
Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course,
Chief nourisher in life's feast,--

LADY MACBETH

What do you mean?

MACBETH

Still it cried 'Sleep no more!' to all the house:
'Glamis hath murder'd sleep, and therefore Cawdor
Shall sleep no more; Macbeth shall sleep no more.'

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's state of mind.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, there is the idea of sleeplessness.
Explain the importance of rest and sleep **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when the idea of rest and sleep is shown
- how rest and sleep affects those involved.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

4. Macbeth – from Act 2 Scene 3

In this extract, Duncan's murder has been discovered by Macduff and the rest of the castle is being awoken to be told the news.

DONALBAIN

What is amiss?

MACBETH

You are, and do not know't:

The spring, the head, the fountain of your blood
Is stopp'd; the very source of it is stopp'd.

MACDUFF

Your royal father 's murder'd.

MALCOLM

O, by whom?

LENNOX

Those of his chamber, as it seem'd, had done 't:
Their hands and faces were an badged with blood;
So were their daggers, which unwiped we found
Upon their pillows:
They stared, and were distracted; no man's life
Was to be trusted with them.

MACBETH

O, yet I do repent me of my fury,
That I did kill them.

MACDUFF

Wherefore did you so?

MACBETH

Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious,
Loyal and neutral, in a moment? No man:
The expedition my violent love
Outrun the pauser, reason. Here lay Duncan,
His silver skin laced with his golden blood;
And his gash'd stabs look'd like a breach in nature
For ruin's wasteful entrance: there, the murderers,
Steep'd in the colours of their trade, their daggers
Unmannerly breech'd with gore: who could refrain,
That had a heart to love, and in that heart
Courage to make 's love know'n?

LADY MACBETH

Help me hence, ho!

MACDUFF

Look to the lady.

MALCOLM

[Aside to DONALBAIN] Why do we hold our tongues,
That most may claim this argument for ours?

DONALBAIN

[Aside to MALCOLM] What should be spoken here,
where our fate,
Hid in an auger-hole, may rush, and seize us?
Let 's away;
Our tears are not yet brew'd.

MALCOLM

[Aside to DONALBAIN] Nor our strong sorrow
Upon the foot of motion.

BANQUO

Look to the lady:

LADY MACBETH is carried out

And when we have our naked frailties hid,
That suffer in exposure, let us meet,
And question this most bloody piece of work,
To know it further. Fears and scruples shake us:
In the great hand of God I stand; and thence
Against the undivulged pretence I fight
Of treasonous malice.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the reactions to Duncan's murder.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, the characters discuss a horrific death.
Explain the importance of death **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when death is shown
- the reasons for death.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

5. Macbeth – from Act 3 Scene 2

In this extract, Lady Macbeth talks with Macbeth in preparation for their banquet.

LADY MACBETH

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

Enter MACBETH

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

MACBETH

We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it:
She'll close and be herself, whilst our poor malice
Remains in danger of her former tooth.
But let the frame of things disjoint, both the
worlds suffer,
Ere we will eat our meal in fear and sleep
In the affliction of these terrible dreams
That shake us nightly: better be with the dead,
Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace,
Than on the torture of the mind to lie
In restless ecstasy. Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst: nor steel, nor poison,
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing,
Can touch him further.

LADY MACBETH

Come on;
Gentle my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

MACBETH

So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you:
Let your remembrance apply to Banquo;
Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue:
Unsafe the while, that we
Must lave our honours in these flattering streams,
And make our faces vizards to our hearts,
Disguising what they are.

LADY MACBETH

You must leave this.

MACBETH

O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife!
Thou know'st that Banquo, and his Fleance, lives.

LADY MACBETH

But in them nature's copy's not eterne.

MACBETH

There's comfort yet; they are assailable;
Then be thou jocund: ere the bat hath flown
His cloister'd flight, ere to black Hecate's summons
The shard-borne beetle with his drowsy hums
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done
A deed of dreadful note.

LADY MACBETH

What's to be done?

MACBETH

Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck,
Till thou applaud the deed.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's anxiety.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Macbeth hints at madness.
Explain the importance of madness **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when madness is shown
- the reasons for madness.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

6. Macbeth – from Act 3 Scene 6

In this extract, Lennox carefully discusses the deaths of Duncan and Banquo with another Lord and they consider that Macduff has gone to England.

LENNOX

My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,
Which can interpret further: only, I say,
Things have been strangely borne. The
gracious Duncan
Was pitied of Macbeth: marry, he was dead:
And the right-valiant Banquo walk'd too late;
Whom, you may say, if't please you, Fleance kill'd,
For Fleance fled: men must not walk too late.
Who cannot want the thought how monstrous
It was for Malcolm and for Donalbain
To kill their gracious father? damned fact!
How it did grieve Macbeth! did he not straight
In pious rage the two delinquents tear,
That were the slaves of drink and thralls of sleep?
Was not that nobly done? Ay, and wisely too;
For 'twould have anger'd any heart alive
To hear the men deny't. So that, I say,
He has borne all things well: and I do think
That had he Duncan's sons under his key--
As, an't please heaven, he shall not--they
should find
What 'twere to kill a father; so should Fleance.
But, peace! for from broad words and 'cause he fail'd
His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear
Macduff lives in disgrace: sir, can you tell
Where he bestows himself?

Lord

The son of Duncan,
From whom this tyrant holds the due of birth
Lives in the English court, and is received
Of the most pious Edward with such grace
That the malevolence of fortune nothing
Takes from his high respect: thither Macduff
Is gone to pray the holy king, upon his aid
To wake Northumberland and warlike Siward:
That, by the help of these--with Him above
To ratify the work--we may again
Give to our tables meat, sleep to our nights,
Free from our feasts and banquets bloody knives,
Do faithful homage and receive free honours:
All which we pine for now: and this report

Hath so exasperate the king that he
Prepares for some attempt of war.

LENNOX

Sent he to Macduff?

Lord

He did: and with an absolute 'Sir, not I,'
The cloudy messenger turns me his back,
And hums, as who should say 'You'll rue the time
That clogs me with this answer.'

LENNOX

And that well might
Advise him to a caution, to hold what distance
His wisdom can provide. Some holy angel
Fly to the court of England and unfold
His message ere he come, that a swift blessing
May soon return to this our suffering country
Under a hand accursed!

Lord

I'll send my prayers with him.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Lennox's views of events.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Scotland is presented as a fearful place.
Explain the importance of fear **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when fear is shown
- how fear affects those involved.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

7. Macbeth – from Act 4 Scene 1

In this extract, Macbeth has gone to visit the witches and they show him apparitions.

Thunder. First Apparition: an armed Head

MACBETH

Tell me, thou unknown power,--

First Witch

He knows thy thought:

Hear his speech, but say thou nought.

First Apparition

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth! beware Macduff;

Beware the thane of Fife. Dismiss me. Enough.

Descends

MACBETH

Whate'er thou art, for thy good caution, thanks;

Thou hast harp'd my fear aright: but one

word more,--

First Witch

He will not be commanded: here's another,

More potent than the first.

Thunder. Second Apparition: A bloody Child

Second Apparition

Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

MACBETH

Had I three ears, I'd hear thee.

Second Apparition

Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn

The power of man, for none of woman born

Shall harm Macbeth.

Descends

MACBETH

Then live, Macduff: what need I fear of thee?

But yet I'll make assurance double sure,

And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live;

That I may tell pale-hearted fear it lies,

And sleep in spite of thunder.

Thunder. Third Apparition: a Child crowned, with a tree in his hand

What is this
That rises like the issue of a king,
And wears upon his baby-brow the round
And top of sovereignty?

ALL

Listen, but speak not to't.

Third Apparition

Be lion-mettled, proud; and take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are:
Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.

Descends

MACBETH

That will never be
Who can impress the forest, bid the tree
Unfix his earth-bound root? Sweet bodements! good!
Rebellion's head, rise never till the wood
Of Birnam rise, and our high-placed Macbeth
Shall live the lease of nature, pay his breath
To time and mortal custom. Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing: tell me, if your art
Can tell so much: shall Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?

ALL

Seek to know no more.

MACBETH

I will be satisfied: deny me this,
And an eternal curse fall on you! Let me know.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth as being confident.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Macbeth sees witchcraft.
Explain the importance of witchcraft **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when witchcraft is shown
- how witchcraft affects those involved.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

8. Macbeth – from Act 4 Scene 3

In this extract, Malcolm pretends to be a terrible ruler to test whether Macduff actually wants Malcolm to be king or is just planning to remove him after Macbeth.

MALCOLM

But I have none: the king-becoming graces,
As justice, verity, temperance, stableness,
Bounty, perseverance, mercy, lowliness,
Devotion, patience, courage, fortitude,
I have no relish of them, but abound
In the division of each several crime,
Acting it many ways. Nay, had I power, I should
Pour the sweet milk of concord into hell,
Uproar the universal peace, confound
All unity on earth.

MACDUFF

O Scotland, Scotland!

MALCOLM

If such a one be fit to govern, speak:
I am as I have spoken.

MACDUFF

Fit to govern!
No, not to live. O nation miserable,
With an untitled tyrant bloody-scepter'd,
When shalt thou see thy wholesome days again,
Since that the truest issue of thy throne
By his own interdiction stands accursed,
And does blaspheme his breed? Thy royal father
Was a most sainted king: the queen that bore thee,
Oftener upon her knees than on her feet,
Died every day she lived. Fare thee well!
These evils thou repeat'st upon thyself
Have banish'd me from Scotland. O my breast,
Thy hope ends here!

MALCOLM

Macduff, this noble passion,
Child of integrity, hath from my soul
Wiped the black scruples, reconciled my thoughts
To thy good truth and honour. Devilish Macbeth
By many of these trains hath sought to win me
Into his power, and modest wisdom plucks me
From over-credulous haste: but God above
Deal between thee and me! for even now
I put myself to thy direction, and
Unspeak mine own detraction, here abjure

The taints and blames I laid upon myself,
For strangers to my nature. I am yet
Unknown to woman, never was forsworn,
Scarcely have coveted what was mine own,
At no time broke my faith, would not betray
The devil to his fellow and delight
No less in truth than life: my first false speaking
Was this upon myself: what I am truly,
Is thine and my poor country's to command:
Whither indeed, before thy here-approach,
Old Siward, with ten thousand warlike men,
Already at a point, was setting forth.
Now we'll together; and the chance of goodness
Be like our warranted quarrel! Why are you silent?

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Malcolm.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Malcolm reveals that he really is honourable.

Explain the importance of revelations **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when revelations are shown
- how the revelations affect those involved.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

9. Macbeth – from Act 5 Scene 5

In this extract, Macbeth's castle is about to be attacked by the English when he receives news that his wife has just died and that Birnam Wood is moving.

MACBETH

She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word.
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
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.

Enter a Messenger

Thou comest to use thy tongue; thy story quickly.

Messenger

Gracious my lord,
I should report that which I say I saw,
But know not how to do it.

MACBETH

Well, say, sir.

Messenger

As I did stand my watch upon the hill,
I look'd toward Birnam, and anon, methought,
The wood began to move.

MACBETH

Liar and slave!

Messenger

Let me endure your wrath, if't be not so:
Within this three mile may you see it coming;
I say, a moving grove.

MACBETH

If thou speak'st false,
Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive,
Till famine cling thee: if thy speech be sooth,

I care not if thou dost for me as much.
I pull in resolution, and begin
To doubt the equivocation of the fiend
That lies like truth: 'Fear not, till Birnam wood
Do come to Dunsinane:' and now a wood
Comes toward Dunsinane. Arm, arm, and out!
If this which he avouches does appear,
There is nor flying hence nor tarrying here.
I gin to be aweary of the sun,
And wish the estate o' the world were now undone.
Ring the alarum-bell! Blow, wind! come, wrack!
At least we'll die with harness on our back.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's fears.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

(b) In this extract, Macbeth regrets the death of his wife.
Explain the importance of regret **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when regret is shown
- the reasons for regret.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)

10. Macbeth – from Act 5 Scene 7

In this extract, Macbeth's forces are being overwhelmed and Macbeth kills Young Siward whilst Macduff searches for him.

MACBETH

They have tied me to a stake; I cannot fly,
But, bear-like, I must fight the course. What's he
That was not born of woman? Such a one
Am I to fear, or none.

Enter YOUNG SIWARD

YOUNG SIWARD

What is thy name?

MACBETH

Thou'lt be afraid to hear it.

YOUNG SIWARD

No; though thou call'st thyself a hotter name
Than any is in hell.

MACBETH

My name's Macbeth.

YOUNG SIWARD

The devil himself could not pronounce a title
More hateful to mine ear.

MACBETH

No, nor more fearful.

YOUNG SIWARD

Thou liest, abhorred tyrant; with my sword
I'll prove the lie thou speak'st.

They fight and YOUNG SIWARD is slain

MACBETH

Thou wast born of woman
But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn,
Brandish'd by man that's of a woman born.

Exit

Alarums. Enter MACDUFF

MACDUFF

That way the noise is. Tyrant, show thy face!
If thou be'st slain and with no stroke of mine,
My wife and children's ghosts will haunt me still.

I cannot strike at wretched kerns, whose arms
Are hired to bear their staves: either thou, Macbeth,
Or else my sword with an unbatter'd edge
I sheathe again undeeded. There thou shouldst be;
By this great clatter, one of greatest note
Seems bruited. Let me find him, fortune!
And more I beg not.

(a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the battle.
Refer closely to the extract in your answer. (20)

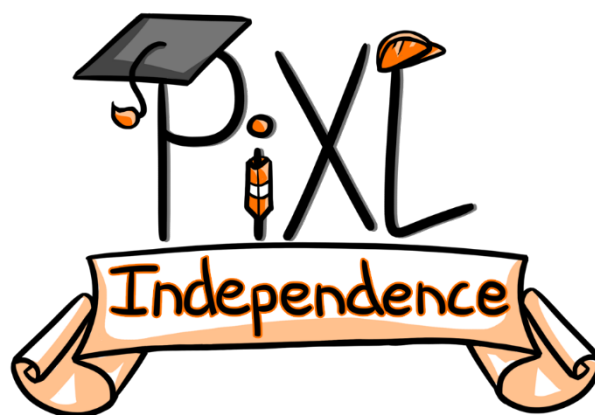
(b) In this extract, there are frequent references to hell and the devil.
Explain the importance of the idea of hell **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- when the idea of hell is shown
- how ideas of hell affect the characters.

You **must** refer to the **context** of the play in your answer.

(20 marks)



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