

**Assessment: You will be given a scene from the play and asked to write an analysis of the character/themes associated with that character.**

**Focus your revision on: Macbeth and Lady Macbeth and themes associated with their characters such as ambition, guilt and betrayal**

Skills needed for the assessment:

- ✓ Explain the effects of Shakespeare’s use of language, considering impact on the audience and language techniques used
- ✓ Offer thoughtful personal responses to the play
- ✓ Apply knowledge of the context to analysis and interpretation
- ✓ Communicate clearly in well punctuated and structured paragraphs

**Key Characters/Quotes**

<b>Macbeth</b>	<b>Lady Macbeth</b>
“he hath honoured me of late” (1.7) <i>recognising Duncan’s good treatment</i>	“I do fear thy nature, it is too full of the milk of human kindness” (1.5) – <i>worries that Macbeth is too innocent and compassionate to murder King Duncan</i>
“I have no spur to prick the sides of my intent, but only vaulting ambition, which o’erleaps itself and falls on th’ other” (1.7) – <i>foreshadows future events that happen because of ambition</i>	“Thou wouldst be great – art not without ambition but without the illness should attend it” (1.5) – <i>tells Macbeth he could become King but he needs to be wicked/ruthless</i>
“False face must hide what the false heart doth know” (1.7) – <i>he needs to hide his intentions (the plot to murder Duncan)</i>	“Unsex me here...Come to my woman’s breasts and take my milk for gall” (1.5) – <i>casts away femininity, would exchange her milk for poison/bitterness</i>
“Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?” (2.1) – <i>hallucinates the dagger before the murder</i>	“Look like the innocent flower but be the serpent under ‘t” (1.5) – <i>encourages Macbeth to betray Duncan</i>
“Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would thou couldst!” (2.2) – <i>shows regret for his act of murder</i>	“I would... have plucked my nipple from his boneless gums and dashed the brains out” (1.7) – <i>shows the terrible lengths she would go to achieve her ambition</i>
“The table’s full” (3.4) <i>Macbeth sees Banquo’s ghost, haunted by his deeds</i>	“When you durst do it, then you were a man” (1.7) – <i>manipulates Macbeth using his masculinity</i>
Life’s but a walking shadow...It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing” (5.5) – <i>his grief following Lady Macbeth’s death, thinks about the meaningless of life</i>	“My hands are of your colour – but I shame to wear a heart so white!” (2.2) <i>mocks him – implies he is weak</i>
	“Out damned spot!” (5.1) – <i>as she goes mad she hallucinates blood on her hands – guilt</i>

## Y8 SHAKESPEARE KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER – MACBETH

Writer's methods		
Tragedy	Genre of play deriving in Ancient Greek. Features a hero who suffers and is ultimately defeated, causing the audience to feel pity.	<p>Context/history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shakespeare: a 16<sup>th</sup> century playwright and actor. Wrote <i>Macbeth</i> to impress King James I</li> <li>• The Divine Right of Kings: the belief that a monarch derives their right to rule directly from God. Treason (betrayal/overthrowing of the monarch) would have been considered a terrible crime</li> <li>• Overthrowing a monarch would disrupt the natural order. Macbeth's defeat could be seen as punishment for his ambitious attempt to take the throne away from the rightful heir</li> <li>• Gender in Elizabethan England: the role of women relevant to the play: Elizabethan women expected to be submissive to men, weak, innocent, gentle. Lady Macbeth breaks the gender norms of the time with her cruelty, deception and violence, shocking the audience</li> </ul>
Hamartia	Hero's fatal flaw (1.7 Macbeth hamartia is his ambition)	
Dramatic Irony	The audience is aware of events that the characters aren't, e.g., 1.4 Duncan praises Macbeth as his 'worthiest cousin'	
Foreshadowing	Hints at future events (1.3) witches' prophecies	
Pathetic fallacy	Use of the weather to create atmosphere/tone/mood (2.4, dark night strangles the travelling lamp – <i>weather is unnatural following Duncan's murder</i> )	