

Y8 Macbeth – Self-isolation work (Spring term 1)

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Week 1

Lesson 1: Re-capping Macbeth knowledge

Task 1 – without reading further, what do you remember about Macbeth so far? Create a mind map then watch/read the following summaries to check.

ACT I

Watch this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDCbc_H6O_I

Three witches predict Macbeth will become King.

Macbeth returns home successful from War, so King Duncan visits.

Lady Macbeth creates a plan to murder the King so they will become King and Queen.

Macbeth does not want to kill Duncan to begin with, but Lady Macbeth manipulates him into doing so.

ACT II

Watch this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTDxvjFVNhc>

Macbeth murders Duncan

He panics afterwards so Lady Macbeth finishes the plan by wiping blood on the guards.

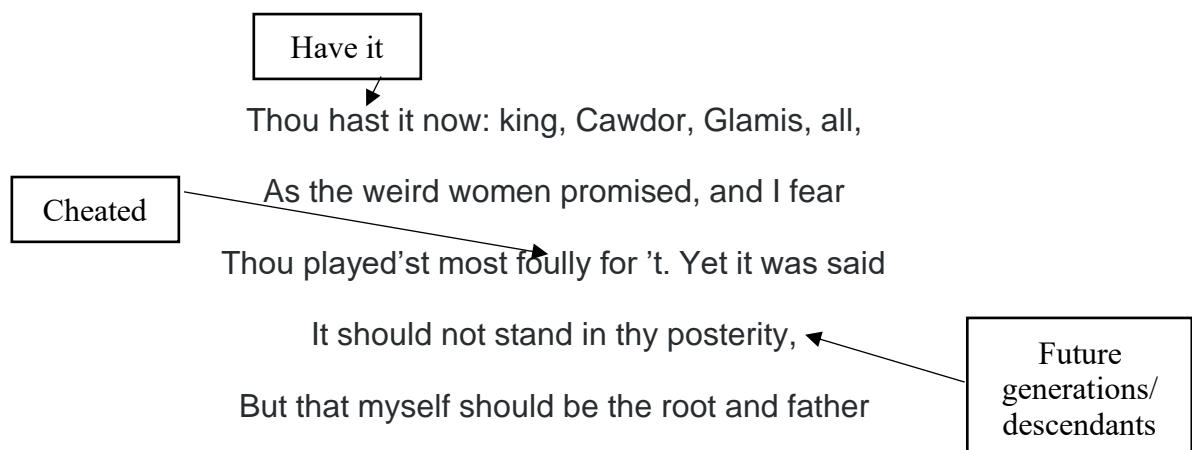
The next morning the kings' sons, Malcolm and Donalbain flee Scotland to stay alive.

Task 2 – Look at the following quotes: copy them out and explain what we learn about Macbeth in them:

- "Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?"
- "Had he not resembled my father as he slept, I had done't"
-

Task 3 – Investigating Banquo

In Act 1, Banquo called Macbeth 'good sir' and 'my noble partner'. Read/[watch](#) this speech and consider if Banquo's feelings towards Macbeth have changed:



Of many kings. If there come truth from them—
 As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine—
 Why, by the verities on thee made good,
 May they not be my oracles as well,
 And set me up in hope? But hush, no more.

Predictions

1. What has Banquo realised about Macbeth and his status? (1)
2. What does Banquo fear? (2/3)
3. What does Banquo think could happen? (7-10)
4. Can you think of an adjective to describe Banquo at this point?

Task 4 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Create a Banquo character profile

You can use a template like the one below, or do it in your own way.

 Key events	Personality
Key quotes	Relationships with others

Draw Banquo here.

- 3 key quotes

Challenge task: Describe his relationship with others, e.g. Macbeth, Duncan...

Lesson 2: Macbeth's Soliloquy

Task 1 – Write a definition of what a soliloquy is and try to explain why Shakespeare used them.

Task 2 – Read the extract below [Watch](#) this video for help.

MACBETH

To be thus is nothing,
 But to be safely thus. Our fears in Banquo
 Stick deep, and in his royalty of nature
 Reigns that which would be feared. 'Tis much he
 dares,
 And to that dauntless temper of his mind
 55 He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valor
 To act in safety. There is none but he
 Whose being I do fear, and under him
 My genius is rebuked, as it is said
 Mark Antony's was by Caesar. He chid the sisters
 60 When first they put the name of king upon me
 And bade them speak to him. Then, prophetlike,
 They hailed him father to a line of kings.
 Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown
 And put a barren scepter in my grip,
 65 Thence to be wrenched with an unlineal hand,
 No son of mine succeeding. If 't be so,
 For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;
 For them the gracious Duncan have I murdered;
 Put rancors in the vessel of my peace
 70 Only for them; and mine eternal jewel
 Given to the common enemy of man,
 To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!
 Rather than so, come fate into the list,
 And champion me to th' utterance. Who's there?

Highlight and label the quotes which match the following ideas:

A. *He's scared that Banquo will expose him*

Challenge task: re-write
 the soliloquy in modern
 English

- B. Banquo is clever and will figure out Macbeth did it*
- C. Banquo's sons will be kings*
- D. Macbeth killed Duncan for nothing if he can't guarantee his children will be kings*
- E. Macbeth will change the prediction through his actions*

Task 4: Create an A-Z linked to what you know about Macbeth so far. You can include character names, themes, places etc.

E.G:

A
Betrayal
C
Dagger

Week 2

Lesson 3: Analysing Macbeth's state of mind

Task 1: [Read](#) and/or [watch](#) Act 3 Scene 2

Summary:

Lady Macbeth is unhappy and sends for her husband. Macbeth tells her that he is also unhappy, saying that his mind is "full of scorpions".

He feels that killing Duncan wasn't enough because there are still threats to the throne to get rid of.

Macbeth tells his wife that he has planned something terrible for Banquo and Fleance and encourages her to be kind to Banquo during the evening's feast, in order to lure their next victim into a false sense of security.

Task 2: Choose one quote from below to draw and translate into modern English

- "We have scorched the snake, not killed it"
- "Make our faces vizards to our hearts"
- "Full of scorpions is my mind"

Challenge task: Does Macbeth remind you of anyone else here?

Task 3: Answer the following questions, using the quotes to help you:

1. Why is Lady Macbeth worried about her husband?
 - “Why do you keep alone?”
2. What does Macbeth tell us has been happening to them both when they are asleep?
 - “these terrible dreams/That shake us nightly”
3. What is Macbeth planning that he doesn’t tell his wife about?
 - “Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck”
4. What does his plan/ secrecy tell us about his changing personality?

Task 4: How to tackle an extract question

An extract is a short section of text taken from the play. You use these in exams to show how much you understand about the plot, characters, themes and language in the play.

On the next page is an example of an extract question.

Read it through considering what Macbeth is thinking and feeling.

Find and highlight the following quotes:

- “Why do you keep alone?” LM
- “We have scorched the snake not killed it”
- “these terrible dreams/That shake us nightly” M
- “Better be with the dead/Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace” M
- “O full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife” M
- “Be innocent of the knowledge, dearest chuck” M

For each highlighted quote, can you label what it shows the audience about Macbeth’s state of mind?

Challenge task: Can you see any patterns to the imagery which is being used?
Focus on lines 39-end.

In the extract below from Act 3, Scene 2, Macbeth is worried about the dangers that still threaten him and his wife, Lady Macbeth. She tells him to forget about what has happened and be cheerful in front of people who are visiting the castle.

Task 5 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Write a paragraph using one of the quotes you've highlighted. You can use

the following writing frame to help if you like.

- *After planning Banquo's death Macbeth seems/feels/is acting.....*
- *When he/Lady Macbeth says/comments/questions that "....." it shows*
- *The word "_____" suggests that....*
- *Shakespeare is letting the audience know that/wants to suggest/wants to explore the idea....*

Lesson 4: The Banquet Scene

Task 1: Have a go at completing this quiz without looking at your notes. If you get stuck, check your work/the knowledge organiser.

1. What genre of play is Macbeth? (1)
2. Give one fact about witches in the 1500s. E.g., Who was usually accused of being a witch? Why were this group of people targeted? (1)
3. Give an adjective (describing word) to describe Macbeth in the opening of the play. (1)
4. Give a quote to support your answer to Q3 (1)
5. Which two titles do the witches predict Macbeth will have in the future? (2)
6. Complete the quote where Lady Macbeth asks the spirits to free her from her feminine body: "----- me here" (2)
7. How does Lady Macbeth convince Macbeth to murder Duncan? (1)
8. Complete Lady Macbeth's quote: "Look like the innocent ----- but be the serpent under it" (1)
9. Which object does Macbeth hallucinate before he murders Duncan? (1)
10. What might this hallucination represent? (1)
11. Which creature does Macbeth say his mind is full of: "full of-----is my mind!" (1)
12. Explain the quote above – what does it tell us about Macbeth's state of mind or emotions? (1)

Task 2: Look at the following image of a scene coming up in the play.



Answer the following questions, trying to be as specific as you can:

1. What is happening?
2. Who is in the room?
3. What might you hear?
4. What might you smell?

Task 3: [Read/Watch](#) Act 3 Scene 3, then answer the following questions:

1. Why do you think Macbeth has sent a third murderer?
2. In some productions, the third murderer is Macbeth himself. Why might the director have done this?
3. Banquo approaches with a torch. Why does Shakespeare associate Banquo with light?
4. Fleance escapes. What does this mean for Macbeth and how might he feel about it?
5. Challenge: What does Fleance's escape suggest about fate?

Task 4: [Watch](#) Act 3 Scene 4

Task 5: Imagine you have been asked to direct this scene. Write an explanation of the advice you would give the main actors on how to play their roles.

[Week 3](#)

Lesson 5: Act 3 Scenes 5 and 6

Task 1: Create a mind map of what you expect of witches and wizards

Task 2: Draw a version of the witch Hecate using the following facts to help you:

- She is goddess of magic, witchcraft and ghosts.
- She lives in Hades (the underworld).
- She carries two torches.
- Her familiars (animals) are a black dog and a polecat.

Task 3: [Watch Act 3 Scene 5](#)

Key events:

Act 3 Scene 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The witches meet again• Their Queen, Hecate, is angry with them for speaking to Macbeth• She tells them to meet her again tomorrow morning when Macbeth will come to them for more knowledge

Write down three questions you'd ask Hecate and the answers you think she'd give. Then watch [this](#) video.

Task 4: [Watch Act 3 Scene 6](#)

Act 3 Scene 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lennox tells another Lord that he is suspicious about the deaths of Duncan and Banquo.• The Lord tells Lennox that Malcolm is in England with the English King.• Macduff has gone there hoping to find support to fight against Macbeth.

Task 5: Read Lennox's speech and complete the tasks below:

LENNOX

My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,
Which can interpret farther. Only I say
Things have been strangely borne. The gracious Duncan
Was pitied of Macbeth. Marry, he was dead.

⁵And the right-valiant Banquo walked too late,
Whom, you may say, if 't please you, Fleance killed,
For Fleance fled. Men must not walk too late.
Who cannot want the thought how monstrous
It was for Malcolm and for Donalbain

¹⁰To kill their gracious father? Damnèd 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,

¹⁵For 'twould have angered 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
²⁰What 'twere to kill a father. So should Fleance.
But, peace! For from broad words, and 'cause he failed
His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear
Macduff lives in disgrace. Sir, can you tell
Where he bestows himself?

Find and highlight a quote which shows...?

1. The “reason” why Banquo was killed (5)
2. Macbeth's apparent reaction to Duncan's death (11)
3. His sarcastic reaction to Macbeth killing the servants (14)
4. He hopes Macbeth never captures Duncan's sons (18-20)

Challenge task: “Make our faces vizards to our hearts/Disguising what we seem” Can you link this line from Macbeth in Act 3 Scene 2 to Lennox's speech?

Task 6 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Creative writing task

Duncan's sons have fled Scotland. Donalbain is in Ireland, Malcom in England.

Write a letter from one brother to the other, explaining how they are feeling.
What are their plans?

Challenge task: Try to use one of their quotes in your letter:

“Why do we hold our tongues, that most may claim this argument for ours?”

“Our separated fortune shall keep us both the safer”

“There’s daggers in men’s smiles”

“This murderous shaft that’s shot....Our safest way is to avoid the aim”

Lesson 6: Macbeth mood board

Task 1: Create a mood board to show Macbeth’s state of mind.

This lesson gives you a chance to consolidate all your knowledge and understanding of Macbeth’s character in the play so far.

Think about:

- His ambitions
- His murderous actions
- His state of mind

Use the following quotes as inspiration:

“O, full of scorpions is my mind”

“False face must hide what the false heart doth know”

“It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood”

A mood board can include images/ colours/ drawings/ words, anything really!

You might cut from a magazine or newspaper, print from the internet, use fabric/ materials you find at home.

Be creative and have fun!

WEEK 4

Lesson 7:

Task 1 – Make a prediction about this scene based on this image:



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Task 2 – Lady Macbeth’s Conscience

- List all the things that Lady Macbeth might be feeling guilty about.
- Give each idea a number – ranking the things in order from the most guilty to the least guilty.

MOST GUILTY:

.....

.....

.....

LEAST GUILTY:

CHALLENGE: Write a sentence explaining what made you decide your most guilty action for her.

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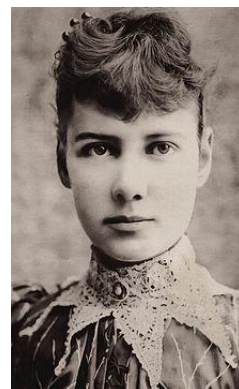
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Mental illness in literature

- Literature often explores women with ‘hysteria’ who are suffering from mental illness but are not treated properly for it.
- In Act Five Scene One we see Lady Macbeth’s descent into mental illness.
- In 1887, Nellie Bly, an American journalist, explored the treatment of women who were considered to be mentally ill.

Nellie Bly

- Nellie Bly was a journalist living in New York in the 1800s.
- She was dissatisfied writing “women’s” articles and began a career as an investigative journalist.
- She was a pioneer of this genre.
- She became an expert on social issues related to women e.g. divorce laws and factory working conditions.



- In 1887, Bly was asked to go undercover into the Blackwell Island Asylum, to investigate reports of abuse in the asylum.
- She faked insanity in order to have herself committed to the asylum.
- From there she proceeded to report on the horrific, rat-infested, abusive conditions that women patients were forced to endure.
- Her article caused an outcry and as a result, New York had to spend \$1,000,000 on improving care of the insane each year.
- It may well be the first piece of “stunt journalism” carried out by a woman.

Watch the trailer for the film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5P3Tz3tLX90>

Task 2 – Ten Days in a Madhouse 1888, *New York World*

Please read the following extracts and answer the questions at the end:

EXTRACT 1:

The ambulance stopped with a sudden jerk and the doctor jumped out. "How many have you?" I heard someone inquire. "Only one, for the pavilion," was the reply. A rough-looking man came forward, and catching hold of me attempted to drag me out as if I had the strength of an elephant and would resist. The doctor, seeing my look of disgust, ordered him to leave me alone, saying that he would take charge of me himself. He then lifted me carefully out and I walked with the grace of a queen past the crowd that had gathered curious to see the new unfortunate. Together with the doctor I entered a small dark office, where there were several men. The one behind the desk opened a book and began on the long string of questions which had been asked me so often.

I refused to answer, and the doctor told him it was not necessary to trouble me further, as he had all the papers made out, and I was too insane to be able to tell anything that would be of consequence. I felt relieved that it was so easy here, as, though still undaunted, I had begun to feel faint for want of food. The order was then given to take me to the insane pavilion, and a muscular man came forward and caught me so tightly by the arm that a pain ran clear through me. It made me angry, and for a moment I forgot my role as I turned to him and said:

"How dare you touch me?" At this he loosened his hold somewhat, and I shook him off with more strength than I thought I possessed.

"I will go with no one but this man," I said, pointing to the ambulance-surgeon. "The judge said that he was to take care of me, and I will go with no one else."

EXTRACT 1 continued:

At this the surgeon said that he would take me, and so we went arm in arm, following the man who had at first been so rough with me. We passed through the well-cared-for grounds and finally reached the insane ward. A white-capped nurse was there to receive me.

"This young girl is to wait here for the boat," said the surgeon, and then he started to leave me. I begged him not to go, or to take me with him, but he said he wanted to get his dinner first, and that I should wait there for him. When I insisted on accompanying him he claimed that he had to assist at an amputation, and it would not look well for me to be present. It was evident that he believed he was dealing with an insane person. Just then the most horrible insane cries came from a yard in the rear. With all my bravery I felt a chill at the prospect of being shut up with a fellow-creature who was really insane. The doctor evidently noticed my nervousness, for he said to the attendant;

"What a noise the carpenters make."

Turning to me he offered me explanation to the effect that new buildings were being erected, and that the noise came from some of the workmen engaged upon it. I told him I did not want to stay there without him, and to pacify me he promised soon to return. He left me and I found myself at last an occupant of an insane asylum.

I stood at the door and contemplated the scene before me. The long, uncarpeted hall was scrubbed to that peculiar whiteness seen only in public institutions. In the rear of the hall were large iron doors fastened by a padlock. Several still-looking benches and a number of willow chairs were the only articles of furniture. On either side of the hall were doors leading into what I supposed and what proved to be bedrooms. Near the entrance door, on the right-hand side, was a small sitting-room for the nurses, and opposite it was a room where dinner was dished out. A nurse in a black dress, white cap and apron and armed with a bunch of keys had charge of the hall. I soon learned her name, Miss Ball.

EXTRACT 2:

Miss Scott was called to the door then, and as I feared that an exhibition of temper might show too much sanity I took off my hat and gloves and was sitting quietly looking into space when she returned. I was hungry, and was quite pleased to see Mary make preparations for dinner. The preparations were simple. She merely pulled a straight bench up along the side of a bare table and ordered the patients to gather 'round the feast; then she brought out a small tin plate on which was a piece of boiled meat and a potato. It could not have been colder had it been cooked the week before, and it had no chance to make acquaintance with salt or pepper. I would not go up to the table, so Mary came to where I sat in a corner, and while handing out the tin plate, asked:

"Have ye any pennies about ye, dearie?"

"What?" I said, in my surprise.

"Have ye any pennies, dearie, that ye could give me. They'll take them all from ye any way, dearie, so I might as well have them."

I understood it fully now, but I had no intention of feeing Mary so early in the game, fearing it would have an influence on her treatment of me, so I said I had lost my purse, which was quite true. But though I did not give Mary any money, she was none the less kind to me. When I objected to the tin plate in which she had brought my food she fetched a china one for me, and when I found it impossible to eat the food she presented she gave me a glass of milk and a soda cracker.

All the windows in the hall were open and the cold air began to tell on my Southern blood. It grew so cold indeed as to be almost unbearable, and I complained of it to Miss Scott and Miss Ball. But they answered curtly that as I was in a charity place I could not expect much else. All the other women were suffering from the cold, and the nurses themselves had to wear heavy garments to keep themselves warm.

- ***How was Bly treated by the staff?***

.....

.....

.....

- ***What did she discover about the conditions for the women?***

.....

.....

.....

Task 3 – ACT 5 SCENE 1

Please read the summary of the scene then have a go at reading the scene yourself.

At night, in the king's palace at Dunsinane, a doctor and a gentlewoman discuss Lady Macbeth's strange habit of sleepwalking. Suddenly, Lady Macbeth enters in a trance with a candle in her hand. Bemoaning the murders of Lady Macduff and Banquo, she seems to see blood on her hands and claims that nothing will ever wash it off. She leaves, and the doctor and gentlewoman marvel at her descent into madness.

Find a copy of the play and a modern English translation online:

https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/page_178/

Vocabulary

Perceive – see

Field – went to war

Guise – how she behaved before

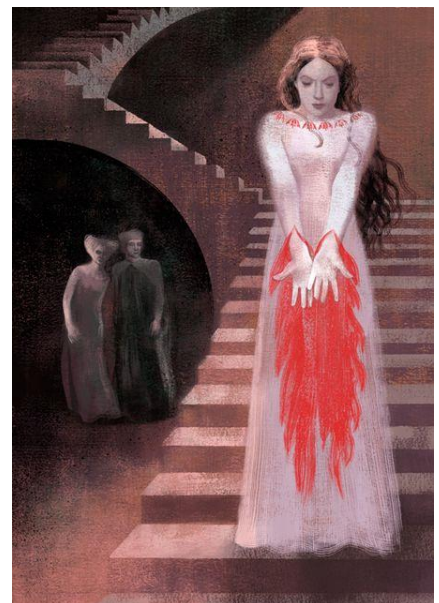
Accustomed – frequent

Fie – shame on you

Mark – hear

Now watch a theatre performance of the scene:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKk14heP2Tw>



Lesson 8:

Task 1 – QUOTE QUEST!

Find a quotation to show that Lady Macbeth:

1. Cannot tolerate the dark (line 20)

.....

.....

2. Repetitive hand washing motions (lines 25-27)

.....

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3. Feels unclean (line 39)

.....

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What reference does Lady Macbeth make to:

4. Duncan's murder (line 35)

.....

.....

5. Murder of Macduff (the Thane of Fife)'s family (line 38)

.....

.....

6. Banquo's murder (lines 56 - 57)

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Task 2 – Write down as many facts as you can remember about the treatment of Nellie Bly in Blackwell Prison Asylum.

The staff:

.....

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The food:

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The conditions:

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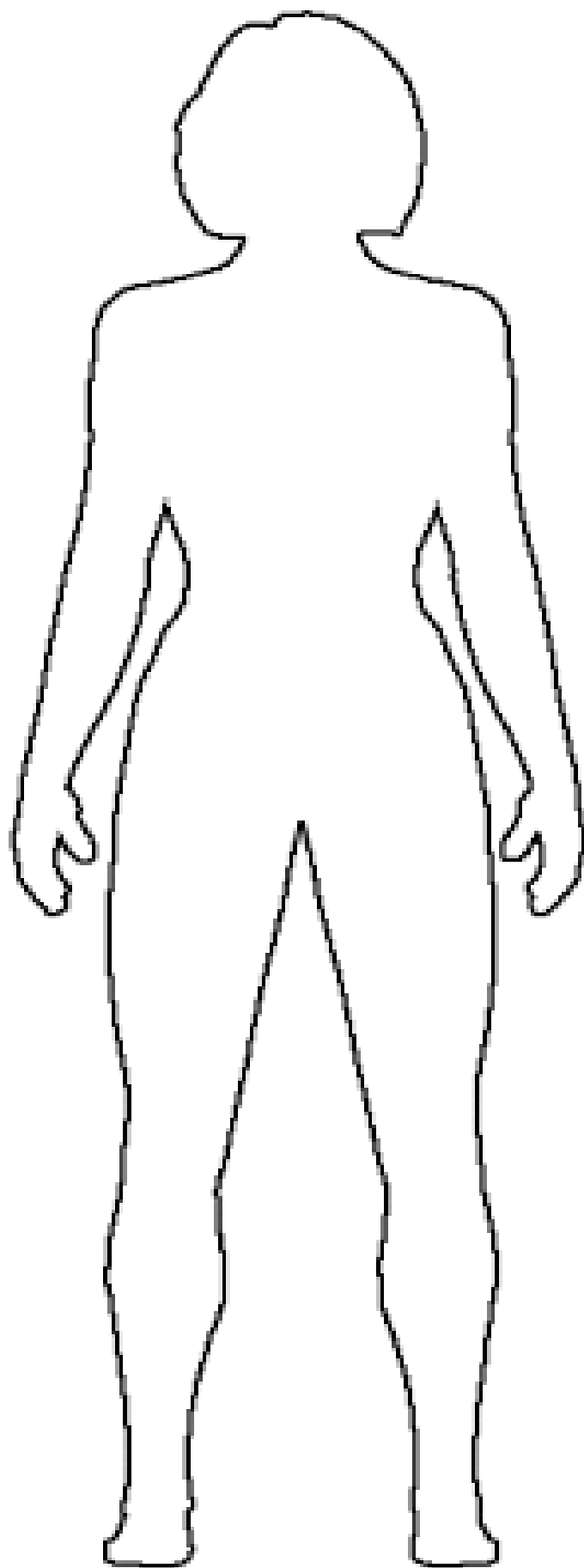
Task 3 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Lady Macbeth

- Using the picture of the body on the next page (9), inside the outline, write down anything we learn about Lady Macbeth's actions and state of mind.
- Outside of the body, write down quotations to support these facts.



LADY MACBETH



Task 4 – The treatment of women

- *How do the doctor and gentlewoman treat Lady Macbeth? Do they differ in their treatment?*

Doctor: ...what, at any time, have you heard her say?

Gentlewoman: That Sir, which I will not report after her.

Doctor: You may to me; and 'tis most meet you should.

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WEEK 5

Lesson 9:

In the study of literature, we often examine what academics and actors have said about characters to help us develop our understanding. Studying English at university means reading these views and deciding which viewpoints you agree with.

Task 1 – Critical views of Lady Macbeth

Read the following critical views about Lady Macbeth's character and write a response.

Which of these views of Lady Macbeth do you agree more with? Explain why.

1. *"She deliberately chooses evil, her choice being more deliberate than her husband's" – Muir (1985)*
2. *She is "totally besotted with Macbeth" who wishes that her career does not "lack fulfilment" – the actor Judi Dench (1976)*
3. *Lady Macbeth is a heroine who defiantly challenges the male-dominated world.*



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Task 2 – Lady Macbeth essay question

You are going to write a response to the following essay question:

To what extent do you agree that the audience feels no sympathy for Lady Macbeth? You should use evidence from the extract and the rest of the play.

Carefully read this extract from Act 5 Scene 1:

Doctor: You see, her eyes are open.

Gentlewoman: Ay, but their sense is shut.

Doctor: What is it she does now? Look, how she rubs her hands.

Gentlewoman: It is an accustomed action with her, to seem thus washing her hands: I have known her continue in this a quarter of an hour.

LADY MACBETH: Yet here's a spot.

Doctor: Hark! she speaks: I will set down what comes from her, to satisfy my remembrance the more strongly.

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.



Task 3 – Lady Macbeth essay question continued

Think about what you have seen of Lady Macbeth both in this scene and earlier on in the play.

In the table below, write down any examples which you think are evidence of why we should show Lady Macbeth some sympathy or why we should not:

SYMPATHY	NO SYMPATHY

Look at these examples from the rest of the play to help you:

- ✓ *“unsex me here” (1.5)*
- ✓ *“Come to my woman’s breasts and take my milk for gall” (1.5)*
- ✓ *“Look like the innocent flower but be the serpent under ’t” (1.5)*
- ✓ *“When you durst do it, then you were a man” (1.7)*
- ✓ *“Had he not resembled My father as he slept, I had done it” (2.2)*

Task 4 – Lady Macbeth essay question continued

Using the notes you have made in the table and the WRITING FRAME below to structure your response, answer the question:

To what extent do you agree that the audience feels no sympathy for Lady Macbeth? You should use evidence from the extract and the rest of the play.

INTRODUCTION:

In the play Macbeth, Shakespeare makes the audience feel sympathy towards the character of Lady Macbeth...

In this extract from Act 5 Scene 1, we feel sympathy with a character who is shown to be...

For example...

This line shows...

Elsewhere in the play...

CHALLENGE: (Use the critical views you have read about – include the one you agree with most)

Muir argues that...

Lesson 10:

Task 1 – Write down the missing words from the quotations below:

1. “fair is _____ and _____ is fair”
2. “false face must _____ what the false heart doth know”
3. “take my _____ for gall”
4. “Out damned _____!”

CHALLENGE: Choose one of these quotations and write a sentence of explanation:

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Task 2 – Read the following summary of Act 5 Scene 2:

- The army of Scottish lords who are going to try to overthrow Macbeth are approaching Dunsinane Castle, ready to meet Malcolm.
- The lords discuss Macbeth’s loss of control.



Task 3 – Macbeth & Leadership

Look at the quotations below, spoken by the lords about Macbeth.

Choose one. *What does it imply about Macbeth and his leadership?*

- *‘Those he commands move only in command, nothing in love’*
- *‘Now does he feel his secret murders sticking on his hands’*
- *‘Now does he feel his title hang loose upon him, like a giant’s robes upon a dwarfish thief’*

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CHALLENGE: *How do these images link to the theme of kingship?*

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.....

Task 4 – Read Act 5 Scene 3

Find a copy of the play and a modern English translation online:

https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/page_190/

Vocabulary

taint –	become weak with
Cream-faced loon –	idiot, pale with fear
Lily-livered –	cowardly
Patch –	clown/ fool
Whey –	curdled milk (white in colour)
Disseat –	throw me off my throne

Task 5 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Answer the following questions on Act 5 Scene 3:

1. Look at lines 1 – 10. *How would you describe Macbeth's confidence here, before going into battle?*

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2. Look at how Macbeth talks to the servant. *What does this reveal about his state of mind?* Help: 'goose' 'cream-faced loon' 'lily-livered boy' 'whey face'

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3. *What news does Seyton bring of Lady Macbeth?*

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4. *How does Macbeth respond to the news?*

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5. Macbeth is speaking to both the doctor and Seyton in this scene. *How does this structural technique affect the atmosphere of the scene?*

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WEEK 6

Lesson 11:

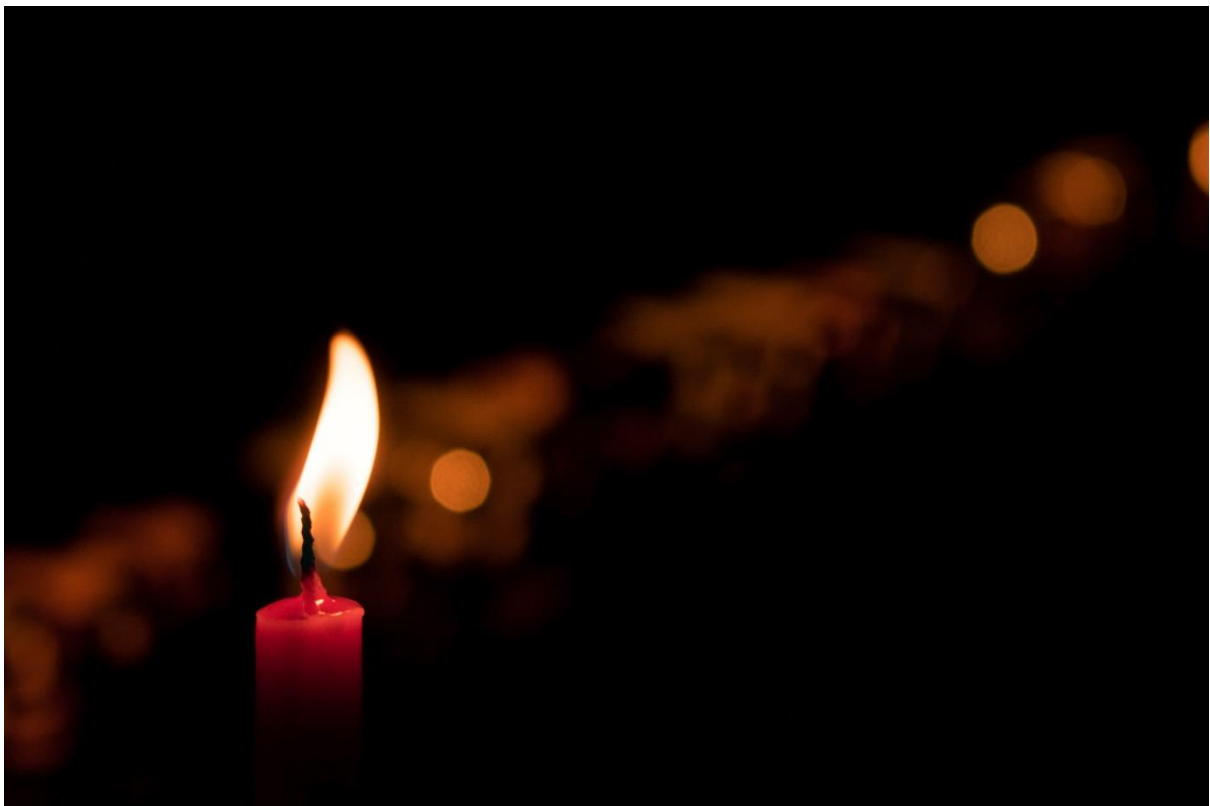
Task 1 – Read Act 5 Scenes 4 & 5

Find a copy of the play and a modern English translation online:

https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/page_196/

Vocabulary

Chambers –	bedrooms
Hew...bough –	cut down a tree branch
Err –	mistake
Siege –	a surprise attack
Anon –	suddenly
Methought –	I thought
Grove –	wood
Sooth –	truth
Wrack –	destruction
Harness –	armour



Task 2 – Questions on Act 5 Scenes 4 & 5

1. What news does Seyton bring to Macbeth?

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2. What do you make of the line 18 – ‘there would have been a time for such a word’?

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3. What does the messenger tell Macbeth?

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4. What can we infer about Macbeth’s reputation from the messenger’s attitude to telling him the news?

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**5. Why do you think the scenes become shorter towards the end of the play?
Help – think about if you were watching this performed on the stage. What sort of atmosphere would be created**

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Task 3 – Out, out brief candle

Look again at this very famous soliloquy spoken by Macbeth from Act 5 Scene 5:

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.

Watch this performance of the speech:

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

Pick one interesting quotation to highlight. Draw a picture of it:



Why have you chosen this quotation?

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Write one sentence to explain the image:

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CHALLENGE: Think about Act 5 Scene 3.

How do you think Macbeth has come to feel about his wife?

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Lesson 12:

Task 1 – Re-cap Act 5 Scene 5

1. What has happened to Lady Macbeth?

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2. What did the Messenger tell Macbeth he had seen from his watch?

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3. How does this link to one of the witches' prophecies? (Hint – trees)

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4. Complete Macbeth's quotation: "At least we'll die with _____ on our back"

CHALLENGE: Think back to the three apparitions. Do you have any predictions for the ending of the play? (Help – Macduff, woman-born)

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Task 2 – Read the following summary of Act 5 Scene 6:

- This scene is set at Dunsinane Castle. The soldiers arrive, banging their drums and carrying banners. Others carry green branches from the forest.
- Malcolm gives orders for the trumpets to sound, a sign of the bloody battle to come.

Task 3 – Read Act 5 Scenes 7 & 8

Find a copy of the play and a modern English translation online:

https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/page_208/

Vocabulary

Anhorred –	hated
Brandished –	held/ waved
Hell-hound –	mythical dog of hell
Blood of thine –	your family's blood
Untimely –	early/ prematurely
Yield –	give up/ surrender

Watch this performance of Act 5 Scene 8:

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



Task 4 – QUOTE QUEST!

Find a quotation to show that:

1. Macduff refers to Macbeth as an evil dog from hell.

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2. Macduff reveals that he was born by a Caesarean operation. (lines 15 – 16)

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3. Macbeth is disheartened. (line 18)

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4. Macbeth refuses to fight Macduff. (line 22)

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5. Macbeth resolves to keep trying to win. (line 32)

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CHALLENGE: In some productions, Macbeth is killed off-stage and his severed head then brought back in the next scene. *If you were the director, would you have killed Macbeth on-stage or off?*

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Task 5 – Read Act 5 Scene 9

Find a copy of the play and a modern English translation online:

https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/page_214/

Vocabulary

I would –	I wish
Some must go off –	some must die
Knell/ knolled –	funeral bell has rung
Usurper –	someone who forces the rightful monarch off their throne and takes their place

CHALLENGE: Look at Siward's response to the news of his son's death. *What does this tell us about masculinity/ expectations of men?*

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Task 6 – UPLOAD TO CLASSCHARTS

Responding to the play

1. Do you think Macbeth got the ending he deserved?

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2. Do you think Malcolm will make a good king? Give evidence to support your answer.

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3. Is there still a worry about Fleance?

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4. Did the witches' prophecies come true? Or was Macbeth responsible for what happened?

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5. Was Macbeth's death inevitable?

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EXTENSION TASKS FOR WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED STUDYING THE PLAY:

1. Pick a key character and design their costume (diagram with labels).
2. Pick a key scene and write instructions for the actors involved.
3. Choose a character and write a monologue for them to go into a key point of the play.
4. Write a short story with the title 'Ambition'.
5. Imagine Macbeth is showing at a local theatre; create a poster to advertise showings.

