

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 1

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 1 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth has been made King, but is suspicious of Banquo.

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 fear'd: 'tis much he dares;
And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
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
When first they put the name of king upon me,
And bade them speak to him: then prophet-like
They hail'd him father to a line of kings:
Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,
And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents Macbeth as being mistrustful.

Write about:

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

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Synonyms of 'mistrustful':

Skeptical

Disloyal

Untrue

Conspiring

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 2

Read the following extract from Act 4 Scene 2 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Lady Macduff is upset and is discussing her husband's absence with her son.

First Murderer

Where is your husband?

LADY MACDUFF

I hope, in no place so unsanctified
Where such as thou mayst find him.

First Murderer

He's a traitor.

Son

Thou liest, thou shag-hair'd villain!

First Murderer

What, you egg!

Stabbing him

Young fry of treachery!

Son

He has kill'd me, mother:

Run away, I pray you!

Dies

Exit LADY MACDUFF, crying 'Murder

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a villain.

Write about:

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

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Synonyms for 'villain':

Criminal

Anti-hero

Scoundrel

Devil

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 3

Read the following extract from Act 2 Scene 1 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth is going to King Duncan's chamber to kill him and is questioning what he is about to do.

Macbeth

Is this a dagger which I see before me,
The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee.
I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.
Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible
To feeling as to sight? Or art thou but
A dagger of the mind, a false creation,
Proceeding from the heat-oppressèd brain?
I see thee yet, in form as palpable
As this which now I draw.
Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going,
And such an instrument I was to use.
Mine eyes are made the fools o' th' other senses,
Or else worth all the rest. I see thee still,
And on thy blade and dudgeon gouts of blood,
Which was not so before. There's no such thing.
It is the bloody business which informs
Thus to mine eyes. Now o'er the one half-world
Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse
The curtained sleep. Witchcraft celebrates
Pale Hecate's offerings, and withered murder,
Alarumed by his sentinel, the wolf,
Whose howl's his watch, thus with his stealthy pace,
With Tarquin's ravishing strides, towards his design
Moves like a ghost. Thou sure and firm-set earth,
Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear
Thy very stones prate of my whereabouts,
And take the present horror from the time,
Which now suits with it. Whiles I threat, he lives.
Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives.
I go, and it is done. The bell invites me.
Hear it not, Duncan, for it is a knell
That summons thee to heaven or to hell.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents Macbeth.

Write about:

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

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 4

Read the following extract from Act 5 Scene 8 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth and Macduff meet.

Enter Macduff

MACDUFF

Turn, hellhound, turn!

MACBETH

Of all men else I have avoided thee.
But get thee back. My soul is too much charged
With blood of thine already.

MACDUFF

I have no words.

My voice is in my sword. Thou bloodier villain
Than terms can give thee out!

They fight

MACBETH

Thou lovest labor.

As easy mayst thou the intrenchant air
With thy keen sword impress as make me bleed.
Let fall thy blade on vulnerable crests;
I bear a charmed life, which must not yield
To one of woman born.

MACDUFF

Despair thy charm,

And let the angel whom thou still hast served
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb
Untimely ripped.

MACBETH

Accursèd be that tongue that tells me so,
For it hath cowed my better part of man!
And be these juggling fiends no more believed,
That palter with us in a double sense,
That keep the word of promise to our ear,
And break it to our hope. I'll not fight with thee.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents violence.

Write about:

- **How Shakespeare presents violence in this extract.**
- **How Shakespeare presents violence in the play as a whole**

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 5a

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 5 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play the witches meet with Hecate to discuss the events so far.

FIRST WITCH

Why, how now, Hecate! You look angrily.

HECATE

Have I not reason, beldams as you are?
Saucy and overbold, how did you dare
To trade and traffic with Macbeth
In riddles and affairs of death,
And I, the mistress of your charms,
The close contriver of all harms,
Was never called to bear my part,
Or show the glory of our art?
And, which is worse, all you have done
Hath been but for a wayward son,
Spiteful and wrathful, who, as others do,
Loves for his own ends, not for you.
But make amends now. Get you gone,
And at the pit of Acheron
Meet me i' th' morning. Thither he
Will come to know his destiny.
Your vessels and your spells provide,
Your charms and everything beside.
I am for the air. This night I'll spend
Unto a dismal and a fatal end.
Great business must be wrought ere noon.
Upon the corner of the moon
There hangs a vap'rous drop profound.
I'll catch it ere it come to ground.
And that distilled by magic sleights
Shall raise such artificial sprites
As by the strength of their illusion
Shall draw him on to his confusion.
He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear
His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace, and fear.
And you all know, security
Is mortals' chiefest enemy.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents fate.

Write about:

- How Shakespeare presents fate in this extract.
- How Shakespeare presents fate in the play as a whole

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 5b

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth and Banquo have just heard the witches' predictions followed by news from Ross of Macbeth's new title.

MACBETH

(aside) Glamis, and thane of Cawdor!
The greatest is behind. (to ROSS and ANGUS) Thanks for your pains.
(aside to BANQUO) Do you not hope your children shall be kings,
When those that gave the thane of Cawdor to me
Promised no less to them?

BANQUO

That, trusted home,
Might yet enkindle you unto the crown,
Besides the thane of Cawdor. But 'tis strange.
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,
Win us with honest trifles, to betray 's
In deepest consequence.
(to ROSS and ANGUS) Cousins, a word, I pray you.

BANQUO, ROSS, and ANGUS move to one side

MACBETH

(aside) Two truths are told,
As happy prologues to the swelling act
Of the imperial theme. *(to ROSS and ANGUS)* I thank you, gentlemen.
(aside) This supernatural soliciting
Cannot be ill, cannot be good. If ill,
Why hath it given me earnest of success,
Commencing in a truth? I am thane of Cawdor.
If good, why do I yield to that suggestion
Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,
Against the use of nature? Present fears
Are less than horrible imaginings.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents fate.

Write about:

- How Shakespeare presents fate in this extract.
- How Shakespeare presents fate in the play as a whole

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

Macbeth – Mock Question Ext. 6

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth and Banquo are returning from battle and meet the witches.

BANQUO

Good sir, why do you start and seem to fear
Things that do sound so fair? (to the WITCHES) I' th' name of truth,
Are ye fantastical, or that indeed
Which outwardly ye show? My noble partner
You greet with present grace and great prediction
Of noble having and of royal hope,
That he seems rapt withal. To me you speak not.
If you can look into the seeds of time
And say which grain will grow and which will not,
Speak, then, to me, who neither beg nor fear
Your favors nor your hate.

FIRST WITCH

Hail!

SECOND WITCH

Hail!

THIRD WITCH

Hail!

FIRST WITCH

Lesser than Macbeth and greater.

SECOND WITCH

Not so happy, yet much happier.

THIRD WITCH

Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none.

So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!

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

Write about:

- How Shakespeare presents the supernatural in this extract.
- How Shakespeare presents the supernatural in the play as a whole

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]