



# Macbeth

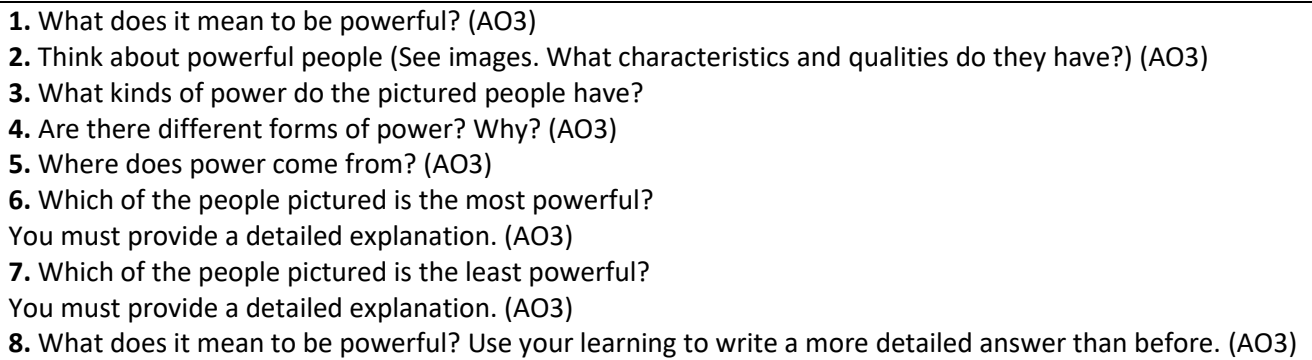
## Home

## Learning

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## What is the definition of power?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.



What is corruption?

**POWER CORRUPTS.  
ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS ABSOLUTELY.**

What does it mean? (A03)

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**Complete the following statements**

You must use the following words:

ambition, corruption, status.

**Power is...**

**Power can...**

Choose three of the images to link to what you learnt about 'power' recently.

Annotate to explain your ideas.



## Macbeth: The Simplified Story



The play begins with the brief appearance of a trio of witches and then moves to a military camp, where the Scottish King Duncan hears the news that his generals, Macbeth and Banquo, have defeated two separate invading armies—one from Ireland and one from Norway.

Following their battle with these enemy forces, Macbeth and Banquo encounter the witches as they cross a moor. The witches prophesy that Macbeth will be made thane (a rank of Scottish nobility) of Cawdor and eventually King of Scotland. They also prophesy that Macbeth's companion, Banquo, will start a line of Scottish kings, although Banquo will never be king himself.



The witches vanish, and Macbeth and Banquo treat their prophecies sceptically until some of King Duncan's men come to thank the two generals for their victories in battle and to tell Macbeth that he has indeed been named thane of Cawdor. The previous thane betrayed Scotland by fighting for the Norwegians and Duncan has condemned him to death. Macbeth is intrigued by the possibility that the remainder of the witches' prophecy—that he will be crowned king—might be true, but he is uncertain what to expect. He visits King Duncan, and they plan to dine together at Inverness, Macbeth's castle, that night. Macbeth writes ahead to his wife, Lady Macbeth, telling her all that has happened.



Lady Macbeth suffers none of her husband's uncertainty. She desires the kingship for him and wants him to murder Duncan in order to obtain it. When Macbeth arrives at Inverness, she overrides all of her husband's objections and persuades him to kill the king that very night.

He and Lady Macbeth plan to get Duncan's two chamberlains drunk so they will black out; the next morning they will blame the murder on the chamberlains, who will be defenceless, as they will remember nothing.

While Duncan is asleep, Macbeth stabs him, despite his doubts and a number of supernatural portents, including a vision of a bloody dagger. When Duncan's death is discovered the next morning, Macbeth kills the chamberlains—pretending to be outraged at their crime—and soon becomes king. Duncan's sons Malcolm and Donalbain flee to England and Ireland, respectively, fearing that whoever killed Duncan desires their deaths as well.

Fearful of the witches' prophecy that Banquo's heirs will seize the throne, Macbeth hires a group of murderers to kill Banquo and his son Fleance. They ambush Banquo on his way to a royal feast, but they fail to kill Fleance, who escapes into the night. Macbeth becomes furious: as long as Fleance is alive, he fears that his power remains insecure.

At the feast that night, Banquo's ghost visits Macbeth. When he sees the ghost, Macbeth raves fearfully, startling his guests, who include most of the great Scottish nobility. Lady Macbeth tries to neutralize the damage, but Macbeth's kingship now falls under suspicion from his nobles and subjects.

Frightened, Macbeth goes to visit the witches in their cavern. There, they show him a sequence of demons and spirits who present him with further prophecies: he must beware of Macduff, a Scottish nobleman who opposed Macbeth's accession to the throne; he is incapable of being harmed by any man born of woman; and he will be safe until Birnam Wood comes to



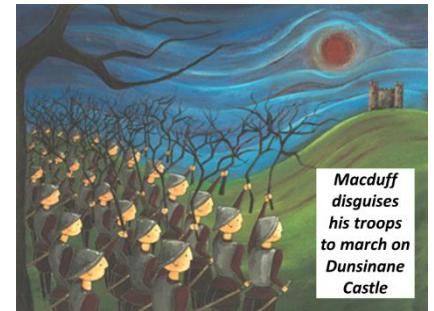


Dunsinane Castle. Macbeth is relieved and feels secure, because he knows that all men are born of women and that forests cannot move. When he learns that Macduff has fled to England to join Malcolm, Macbeth orders that Macduff's castle be seized and, most cruelly, that Lady Macduff and her children be murdered. When news of his family's execution reaches Macduff in England, he is stricken with grief and vows revenge.

Prince Malcolm, Duncan's son, has succeeded in raising an army in England, and Macduff joins him as he rides to Scotland to challenge Macbeth's forces. The invasion has the support of the Scottish nobles, who are appalled and frightened by Macbeth's tyrannical and murderous behaviour.

Lady Macbeth, meanwhile, becomes plagued with fits of sleepwalking in which she bemoans what she believes to be bloodstains on her hands. Before Macbeth's opponents arrive, Macbeth receives news that she has killed herself, causing him to sink into a deep and pessimistic despair.

Nevertheless, he awaits the English and fortifies Dunsinane, to which he seems to have withdrawn in order to defend himself, certain that the witches' prophecies guarantee his invincibility. He is struck numb with fear, however, when he learns that the English army is advancing on Dunsinane shielded with boughs cut from Birnam Wood. Birnam Wood is indeed coming to Dunsinane, fulfilling half of the witches' prophecy.



In the battle, Macbeth fights violently, but the English forces gradually overwhelm his army and castle. On the battlefield, Macbeth encounters the vengeful Macduff, who declares that he was not "of woman born" but was instead "untimely ripped" from his mother's womb (what we now call birth by caesarean section). Though he realizes that he is doomed, Macbeth continues to fight until Macduff kills and beheads him. Malcolm, now the King of Scotland, declares his benevolent intentions for the country and invites all to see him crowned at Scone.

**Sum up the story in this box – you can draw diagrams, summarise the story or any other method. You must not go outside the box! (AO1)**




## Who was Machiavelli – and what can he teach us about power?

*"Since love and fear can hardly exist together, if we must choose between them, it is far safer to be feared than loved"*

Niccolo Machiavelli  
The Prince

### Machiavellianism (AO3)

Ma|chia|vel|lian

[ˌmɑkiəˈvelɪən] 

#### ADJECTIVE

1. cunning, scheming, and unscrupulous, especially in politics.  
"a whole range of outrageous Machiavellian manoeuvres"  
*synonyms:* [devious](#) · [cunning](#) · [crafty](#) · [artful](#) · [wily](#) · [sly](#) · [scheming](#) · [\[More\]](#)

#### NOUN

1. a person who schemes in a Machiavellian way.  
*synonyms:* [conspirator](#) · [co-conspirator](#) · [conspirer](#) · [plotter](#) · [\[More\]](#)



**NOTE!** The types of political behaviour which are discussed with approval by Machiavelli in *The Prince* were thought of as shocking by contemporaries, and its immorality is still a subject of serious discussion.

### Extract from *The Prince* Niccolò Machiavelli, 1532

Every prince may desire to be thought **clement**. But it was Cesare Borgia's cruelty which brought peace and unity to the Romagna. A prince who keeps his **subjects** united and loyal, ought not to mind the **reproach** of cruelty; for too much **mercy** will allow disorder to injure the whole people, whilst a few executions offend only individuals.

Is it better to be loved or feared? One might wish to be both, but they are not met in the same person. Because this is to be **asserted** in general of men, that they are ungrateful, fickle, false, cowardly, **covetous**, and as long as you succeed they are yours entirely. They will offer you their blood, property, life, and children when the need is far distant; but when it approaches they turn against you. The prince who relies on their promises is ruined; because friendships that are obtained by payments, and not by greatness or nobility of mind, may indeed be earned, but they are not secured, and in time of need cannot be relied upon. Men will readily offend a beloved, for love is preserved by the link of obligation which men will break at every opportunity for their advantage; but fear preserves you by a dread of punishment which never fails.

#### Define the following -

Clement:

Subjects:

Reproach:

Mercy:

Asserted:

Covetous:

**Summarise Machiavelli's argument in fifty words or fewer... (AO1)**

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**How does this relate to Macbeth's actions? (AO3)**

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**Extract from The Prince**  
**Niccolò Machiavelli, 1532**

Many men believe the affairs of the world are governed by fortune and God, so that men cannot direct them. Fortune may direct one-half of our actions, but she still leaves us to direct the other half. She may be like the raging flood, which sweeps away trees and buildings. But that does not mean that, when the waters settle, men cannot make barriers against such misfortune.

A man may pursue glory and riches by caution, another with **haste**, one by force, another by skill, and yet still **attain** their goal. It is not so much the method, but how well they **conform** to the spirit of the times. It is the man who cannot change from his nature or his **accustomed** ways, who is lost. The cautious man who does not know when it is time to turn adventurous is ruined.

Fortune is changeful, yet mankind **steadfast** in their ways, success comes when the two are in agreement. For my part I consider that it is better to be adventurous than cautious, because fortune is a woman, and if you wish to control her it is necessary to beat and ill-use her; and she allows herself to be mastered by the adventurous. She is, therefore, always, woman-like, a lover of young men, because they are less cautious, more violent, and with more **audacity** command her.

**Define the following -**

Haste:

Attain:

Conform:

Accustomed:

Steadfast:

Audacity:



### How does Machiavelli's argument relate to Macbeth's actions? (AO3)

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### Relevant Vocabulary

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b><u>Ambition</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A strong desire to do or achieve something.            | <b><u>Chivalry</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Bravery, military skill, generosity in victory, courtesy to women | <b><u>Cowardice</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Fear and self-concern leading to putting yourself first.                              |
| <b><u>Conflict</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A serious disagreement or argument.                    | <b><u>Desire</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A strong wish for something or someone.                             | <b><u>Duplicity</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Deceitfulness; being two-faced.   |
| <b><u>Femininity</u></b><br>(noun)<br>The quality of being female; womanliness.            | <b><u>Machiavellian</u></b><br>(adjective)<br>Being cunning, evil and sly.                            | <b><u>Masculinity</u></b><br>(noun)<br>The quality of being male; manliness.   |
| <b><u>Monarchy</u></b><br>(noun)<br>The king, queen and royal family of a country.         | <b><u>Paranoia</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A worry that you are being persecuted or victimised.              | <b><u>Patriarchal</u></b><br>(adjective)<br>A social system where men (particularly fathers) hold the power and influence. |
| <b><u>Prophecy</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A prediction of the future.                            | <b><u>Soliloquy</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A speech given to the audience.                                  | <b><u>Superstition</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A belief in supernatural influences which there are no evidence for.               |
| <b><u>Tyranny</u></b><br>(noun)<br>An unfair, unjust and cruel government or rule.         | <b><u>Usurp</u></b><br>(verb)<br>To take someone else's place illegally or by force.                  | <b><u>Villainy</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Wicked or criminal behaviour.  |
| <b><u>Hamartia</u></b><br>(noun)<br>A fatal flaw leading to the downfall of a tragic hero. | <b><u>Hubris</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Excessive pride or confidence.                                      | <b><u>Catharsis</u></b><br>(noun)<br>Releasing – and finding release from – strong emotions.                               |

- ➔ Write the story Macbeth.
- ➔ Use as many of these new words as possible.
- ➔ Highlight them once you have done.



**Look up and define the following terms...**

**Tragic Hero:**

***Hamartia:***

## Aristotle's Elements of a Tragic Hero

***Research what this is and write a definition below.***

***Don't just copy from the internet – write it in a way you actually understand!***

[illegible]

### Code of Chivalry and Being Chivalrous

The Code of Chivalry was a moral system which went beyond rules of combat and introduced the concept of Chivalrous conduct - qualities idealised by the Medieval knights such as bravery, courtesy, honour and great gallantry toward women. It also incorporated the notion of courtly love. The Code of Chivalry was the honour code of the knight. The Code of Chivalry was an important part of the society and lives of people who lived during the Medieval times and was understood by all.

### The Knight's Code of Chivalry

A knight was expected to have not only the strength and skills to face combat in the violent era of the Middle Ages but was also expected to temper this aggressive side with a chivalrous side to his nature. The ideals described in the Code of Chivalry were emphasised by the oaths and vows that were sworn in the Knighthood ceremonies of the Middle Ages and the Medieval era. These sacred oaths of combat were combined with the ideals of chivalry and with strict rules of etiquette and codes of conduct towards women.



### Code of Chivalry described by the Duke of Burgundy

The chivalric virtues of the Code of Chivalry were also described in the 14th Century by the Duke of Burgundy. The words he chose to use to describe the virtues that should be exhibited in the Knights Code of Chivalry were as follows:

- Faith
- Charity
- Justice
- Prudence
- Resolution
- Truth
- Diligence
- Hope
- Valour

Although Macbeth is a warrior rather than a knight, he would still have been expected to act in a chivalrous fashion. Choose three of the virtues above and explain how Macbeth **fails** to show them.

1.

2.

3.

## Witches and Witchcraft in Shakespeare's Time



Throughout the ages there have been people who have believed in witches and witchcraft. The people of Shakespeare's day were no different. Shakespeare drew on the popular traditions of his time and used them for his own purposes. In *Macbeth* he used popular beliefs about witches and witchcraft.

When Shakespeare wrote *Macbeth*, witchcraft was a topic of considerable interest. The new king of England, James I, had written a book called *Demonology* which was published in 1597. Until the time of Queen Elizabeth, no-one could be executed simply for being a witch. But in 1604, witchcraft became a capital offence. Evidence of a relationship with evil spirits condemned a suspect to death by hanging, burning or drowning. Whether Shakespeare himself believed in witches does not matter. He used them for his play, and many of his audience would have believed in them as thoroughly evil servants of the devil. For the people of Shakespeare's time, the devil was very real who they believed spent his time trying to trap men and women into his power.

Witches were supposed to be capable of doing all the things that the three weird sisters are said to perform in *Macbeth*. It was believed that they could see into the future; that they could create storms, hail, thunder and lightning; stop the sun and change night into day and day into night. In order to work their charms they would open graves and steal parts of the bodies to make potions. For this purpose the bodies of unbaptized babies were especially prized. And witches could call up the dead.

For a king like Macbeth to visit *and* have dealings with witches would have seemed both a crime and a sin.

Macbeth is easily captured by their power and by their prophecies. But note that they never tell him a lie. However, they do allow *him* to deceive *himself*. The devil does not lie...but leads us into temptation.

### **Identify four things people believed about witches... (AO1)**

1.

2.

3.

4.

### **What was the penalty for witchcraft? (AO1)**

## **King James, Witch Trials and Daemonologie**

The North Berwick witch trials were the trials in 1590 of a number of Scottish people accused of witchcraft. They ran for two years and implicated seventy people. The confessions of the 'witches' were extracted by torture in Edinburgh.

As King James sailed to Copenhagen to marry Princess Anne of Denmark, a terrible storm hit their ship, causing them to seek shelter in Norway for several weeks. Somehow, this was blamed on various women in Denmark who confessed (probably after being tortured) to raising the storm through sorcery. Two were burned for their crime.

Scottish women were linked to the storms when Gillis Duncan confessed to her employer that she had developed an ability to heal herself. She would also regularly sneak out after dark. She could not explain her strange behaviour, so she was tortured – a result of which was her confession of witchcraft. She accused many others too.

The situation snowballed, with more than a hundred suspects arrested. Under torture, many confessed to meeting with the Devil and devoting themselves to his evil work – including poisoning the king and attempting to sink his ship.

King James established a court hear their trials. Two of the most horrific cases are detailed below...

### **Agnes Sampson**

Sampson was an elderly woman who refused to confess. She suffered horribly – she was fastened to the wall of her cell by a witch's bridle, an iron instrument with four sharp prongs forced into the mouth, so that two prongs pressed against the tongue, and two others against the cheeks. She was kept without sleep and strangled. Only after these ordeals did she confess to her 'crimes'. She was hanged and burned as a witch.

### **Dr John Fian**

Like Sampson, he refused to confess to witchcraft. His fingernails were forcibly removed, with iron pins thrust into his fingertips. Thumbscrews are also used to slowly crush his thumbs. A similar device called 'the boot' was used to crush his feet. He was finally burned at the stake having confessed.

Influenced by his involvement in the 'attack' upon his boat and his role in the subsequent trials, King James wrote his book *Daemonologie* in 1597.

## **DAEMONOLOGIE (edited extract)**

My intention in this book, is only to prove two things, as I have already said: the one, that such devilish arts exist. The other, what exact trial and severe punishment they deserve: & therefore reason I, what kind of things are possible to be performed in these arts, & by what natural causes they may be, not that I touch every particular thing of the Devil's power.

I say and prove, that Witches can, by the power of their Master, cure or cast on diseases: Now by these same reasons, that proves their power by the Devil of diseases in generally is as well proved their power in special: as of weakening the nature of some men, to make them unable for women: and making it to abound in others, more then the ordinary course of nature would permit. And such like in all other particular sicknesses.

**How do you think what you've learned about King James I and Daemonologie influenced Shakespeare's writing of Macbeth? (AO3)**



## Eve and the Serpent

God took some clay from the ground and made the shape of a man. Then He breathed gently into the shape. The man's eye's opened and he began to live. God called him Adam.

The Lord made a beautiful garden for him to live in. The garden, called Eden, was full of many wonderful things. Beautiful flowers grew everywhere. Birds sang in the trees, streams flowed through the valley and animals roamed across the fields. God brought all the animals to Adam one at a time to be given their names. "Elephant", he would say, or "Tiger", or "Porcupine".

God had made the man in His image to keep Him company and look after the world. But God felt sorry for Adam. "None of these animals is really like him," thought God, "he needs someone to share his life. Someone who cares for him and who he can care for."

That night, God took a rib from Adam's side and made a woman. When Adam awoke the following morning, he found a wife, Eve, lying asleep beside him. Adam was so happy. He took her hand and she woke up. She looked up at him and smiled.

God told the man and woman that it was their job to take care of their new home. God blessed them, saying, "All this is for you. Help yourself to anything you like. But never touch the tree in the middle of the Garden. That tree gives knowledge of good and evil. The day you eat its fruit, you will die."

God did not mean that Adam and Eve would drop down dead the moment they ate the fruit from the tree. He meant that in time they would die without His Spirit dwelling in them.

One day, Adam and Eve were gathering berries for dinner when she heard a silky voice behind her. "Has God told you that you can eat the fruit from all the trees?" the voice asked softly. Eve turned around to see a snake talking to her.

"God has told us we can eat all the fruit except for what grows on The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil," Eve told the serpent.

"Oh come now, that's silly! I hardly think such a lovely fruit would do you any harm," the serpent lied. "God knows that if you eat from The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil you'll become just like God, and will be able to decide for yourself what is right and what is wrong."

The woman looked at the fruit and thought how tasty it looked. She thought how wonderful it would be to be as wise and powerful as God. She believed the serpent's lie and ate the fruit and also gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he took a bite as well.

She felt a strange feeling in the pit of her stomach. She fidgeted and wondered what was wrong with her. Suddenly she realized that she was feeling guilty - she had disobeyed God and knew she'd done something wrong.

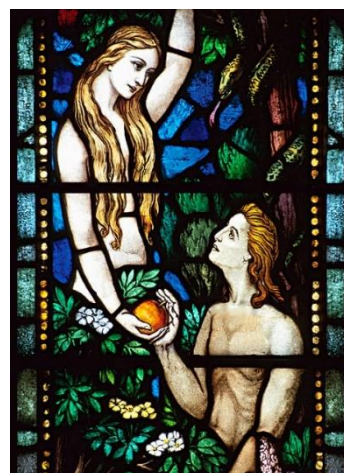
As soon as they ate the fruit a change came over Adam and Eve. They became unhappy and fearful of God.

Adam and Eve heard God calling them. Without thinking, they dived into the bushes, but God knew where they were. When God asked them if they had eaten from The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil that He had told them not to touch, they blamed each other for their sins.

God was sad that Adam and Eve had disobeyed them. He told them that they had to leave the Garden of Eden, "From now on you'll have to scratch a living from the soil. You'll need to make clothes and grow food. Nothing will come easily - not even childbirth. And one day, you will die."

Because sin is something we are born with and carry throughout our lives, the only way we can be free of sin is through living good and well-behaved lives.

Christianity would have been far more important in the Jacobean era, and the idea of 'original sin' living within us – and being the fault of a woman – would have been common.



**What links can you make between the story of the serpent and the story of Macbeth?  
(AO3)**

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Who is more full of 'original sin': Macbeth or Lady Macbeth?

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## The Role of Women

### Patriarchal Society

Elizabethan society was patriarchal, meaning that men were considered to be the leaders and women their inferiors. Women were regarded as "the weaker sex", not just in terms of physical strength, but emotionally too. It was believed that women always needed someone to look after them. If they were married, their husband was expected to look after them. If they were single, then their father, brother or another male relative was expected to take care of them.

### Housewives and Mothers

Even though there had been an unmarried woman on the throne in Elizabethan England, the roles of women in society were very limited. There were very clear expectations of men and women, and in general men were expected to be the breadwinners and women to be housewives and mothers. On average, a woman gave birth to a child every two years, but as a lot of babies and children died from sickness, families were not always large. Childbearing was considered a great honour to women, as children were seen as blessings from God.

### Professional Women

Women were not allowed to enter the professions i.e law, medicine, politics, but they could work in domestic service as cooks, maids, etc. Women were also allowed to write works of literature, providing the subject was suitable for women: mainly translations or religious works. Women were not allowed to act on the public stage or write for the public stage. Acting was considered dishonourable for women. In Shakespeare's plays, the roles of women were often played by young boys.

### Marriage

A man was considered to be the head of a marriage, and he had the legal right to chastise his wife. However, it is important to understand what this "headship" meant. It did not mean, as is often supposed, that the husband was able to command his wife to do anything he pleased. He was expected to take care of her, make sure she had everything she needed, and most importantly to love her and be a good father to any children they had. If a husband felt the need to chastise his wife, then he was not allowed to be cruel or inflict bodily harm. If he did abuse his wife, then he could be prosecuted or prevented from living with her. There was no divorce: marriage generally lasted as long as the couple both lived.

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| <b>Sum up each heading in one sentence:</b> |
| <b>Patriarchal Society</b>                  |
| <b>Housewives and Mothers</b>               |
| <b>Professional Women</b>                   |
| <b>Marriage</b>                             |

## Shakespeare and the Gunpowder Plot

It was November, 1605, and high treason was on the mind of every English subject. A small group of angry Catholics, fed up with ongoing persecution at the hands of the Protestant monarchy, hatched an elaborate plot to blow King James I and his government to smithereens. As luck would have it, a warning letter surfaced at the last minute and James ordered a search of his palace. The most notorious conspirator, Guy Fawkes, was discovered in the cellar, match in hand, ready to ignite twenty barrels of gunpowder "all at one thunderclap."



Shakespeare obviously knew about this plot. These traitors of the realm had some deep connections to Shakespeare and his family: Shakespeare's father, John was known to be a secret Catholic and was friends with William Catesby, the father of the head conspirator, Robert Catesby. Moreover, the Mermaid Tavern in London, owned by one of Shakespeare's closest friends, was a preferred meeting spot of the traitors as they schemed to obliterate the Protestants once and for all.

Shakespeare felt that he might be under suspicion; he knew some of the people involved, was known to drink where they drank, and his father was a closet Catholic who was close to the conspirators.

While the captured traitors suffered the ultimate punishment of being disembowelled and beheaded in front of the cheering masses, Shakespeare would likely have been only a few miles away, holed up in his estate in Stratford, piecing together tales about different Scottish kings from old history books. Change after change was made until the play became a perfect propaganda machine that seemed to clear Shakespeare of any suspicion.

James' favourite part of Shakespeare's new take on history would be the near mythological qualities given to the character created in his image – Macbeth's victim, King Duncan. While the real Duncan was a war-loving brute, Shakespeare's Duncan is a thoughtful, infallible, divinely-appointed ruler with "silver skin" and "golden blood." Killing old Duncan is a calamity of such epic proportion that it sends the kingdom into total chaos and bloodshed.

A master of details, Shakespeare wove direct references to the Gunpowder plot right into *Macbeth*. To commemorate the discovery of the heinous scheme, King James had a medal created picturing a snake hiding amongst flowers. Unsurprisingly, we find a reference to the medal right in the play when Lady Macbeth tells her husband to look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under it.

**How is the gunpowder plot similar to Macbeth's plot? (AO3)**

[illegible]

### **Opinions on Royalty in 1600s**

The King or Queen in Shakespeare's time were considered to be a step down from God. It was believed that God spoke to the monarch. The monarch was the leader, protector, father/mother and the route to heaven. Love and obey your monarch and you will go to heaven. Defy or betray your monarch (TREASON) or kill a king (REGICIDE) and you are killing a God, and you'll surely go to Hell.



### **Punishment for Treason**

You would be branded a traitor. In Dante's Inferno (famous pre Macbeth poem) the lowest circle of Hell was reserved for traitors. If you were caught your execution would see you hanged, drawn and quartered. This consisted of hanging till almost dead, then your insides pulled out and your body cut into four pieces. Unless you were a woman, in which case you'd be burnt at the stake.

***Question One: How does this view of the monarchy affect Macbeth?***

***Question Two: With this in mind, why are Lady Macbeth's actions so surprising?***

|                        |                         |   |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Circle | Limbo                   | The unbaptised and virtuous pagans were kept between heaven and hell.                         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Circle | Lust                    | Souls are blown about in a violent storm without hope of rest.                                |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Circle | Gluttony                | Gluttons are forced to lie in vile, freezing slush forever.                                   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Avarice and Prodigality | The miserly and spendthrifts push great weights together, crashing them time and again.       |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Wrath and Sullenness    | The wrathful fight each on the surface of the river Styx while the sullen gurgles beneath it. |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Heresy                  | Heretics are trapped in flaming tombs for eternity.   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Violence                | The violent against people and property, the suicides and the blasphemers.                    |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Fraud                   | Liars, thieves, flatterers, false prophets, sorcerers and seducers.                           |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Circle | Treachery/Treason       | Betrayers of special relationships are frozen in a lake of ice.                               |

**Look up any of the sins/crimes you are unfamiliar with. Add their definitions.**

**Which circle of hell do they belong in? Does it change at any point in the play?**



**TRAGIC HERO:** great or virtuous character in a dramatic tragedy who is destined for downfall, suffering, or defeat.

**HAMARTIA:** a fatal flaw.

| <b>Ingredients of a tragic hero...</b>   | <b>Does Macbeth have these ingredients? Example? (AO1, AO2)</b> |
|--|---|
| The individual involved has to be a member of upper nobility in order to be a tragic hero.   |   |
| The tragic hero must have some kind of flaw (hamartia) which might include a mistake in judgment or HUBRIS (pride), the greatest sin of all.           |   |
| The story must contain some type of obvious reversal. This could be a reversal in attitude or fortune.   |   |
| Not all tragic heroes die, but all suffer. Sometimes the suffering is mental, sometimes physical, however it is always great suffering.                |   |
| The tragic hero becomes aware of his situation or plight, but this always comes to the character when it is too late to do anything about the outcome. |   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>The audience must feel these in order for a tragic hero to be real:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pity - punishment they received was too great.</li> <li>• Fear - can see themselves in the hero; it could be me.</li> </ul> |  |
|---|--|

## Recap the Plot

**Who is travelling with Macbeth when he first encounters the three sisters?**

- a) Macduff
- b) Lennox
- c) Banquo
- d) Duncan

**What is Macbeth Thane of at the start of the play?**

otland  
e  
vdor  
mis

**What prophecy do the sisters give Banquo in Act 1?**

- a) That he will be made Thane of Cawdor
- b) That his son will be made Thane of Cawdor
- c) That his sons will be made princes
- d) That his sons will be made kings

**What 'sign' convinces Macbeth to kill Duncan?**

- a) An apparition of one of the Weird Sisters
- b) A nightmare about one of the Weird Sisters
- c) An apparition of a floating dagger
- d) The ghost of his dead father visits him

**What does Macbeth accidentally take with him after murdering the king?**

- a) The murder weapons
- b) The king's crown
- c) The bible
- d) The King's bloody pillow

**Which characters run away shortly after Duncan's death?**

- a) Banquo and Fleance
- b) Macbeth and Lady Macbeth
- c) Malcolm and Donalbain
- d) Macduff and his family

**What does Macbeth hire men to do?**

- a) Protect him from assassins
- b) Kill Macduff and his family
- c) Find the witches so he can talk to them again
- d) Kill Banquo and his son

**When he sees them the second time, what four things do the witches show Macbeth?**

- a) A head, a blood child, a crown and a serpent
- b) An armed child, a bloody child, a crowned child with a tree in his hand, eight kings followed by Banquo's ghost with a mirror
- c) Armed head, visions, crowned child with a tree in his hand and a battlefield
- d) An armed head, a bloody child, a crowned child with a tree in his hand, eight kings followed by Banquo's ghost with a mirror

**Why does Macbeth have Macduff's family and servants killed?**

- a) Macduff is not loyal and Macbeth wants to kill his family as they could kill him
- b) Macduff is not loyal to Macbeth, and Macbeth is angry
- c) Macduff is angry with Macbeth and he is afraid
- d) Macduff is not loyal and Macbeth is happy

**Towards the end of the play, which words best describe Lady Macbeth's behaviour in this Act?**

- a) Confident, egotistical and boastful
- b) Ambitious, power-driven and determined
- c) Psychotic, unstable and melodramatic
- d) Obsessive, paranoid and unhinged

**Macbeth does not fear death at the hands of the rebels because he has...**

- a) Extensive battle experience
- b) Faith in the witches' prophecies
- c) Little reason to go on living
- d) No awareness of the rebels' strength

**In the last scene, Macbeth fights to the death because he...**

- a) is given no other choice
- b) thinks that Macduff can be easily defeated
- c) does not believe Macduff's claims about his birth
- d) prefers an honourable defeat to a humiliating surrender

## Match the quotation on the following page to the correct section of the plot.

1. On a dark, stormy Scottish night, three witches plot to meet Macbeth on his way home from battle.
2. Macbeth fought bravely, decapitating his opponent and gaining victory for King Duncan. Exhausted from battle, Macbeth and his friend Banquo meet the witches, who make a prophecy...
3. Lady Macbeth is afraid her husband is too weak-willed to fulfil his destiny. When she hears that King Duncan is coming to their castle, she decides they must kill him and persuades Macbeth to do it...
4. Lady Macbeth gets the king's bodyguards drunk, and as they sleep Macbeth murders the king and smears the drunken bodyguards with blood to frame them. He is tortured by what he has done and hears voices in his head.
5. Macbeth is crowned King of Scotland – and has his friend Banquo killed to keep him quiet about the witches' prophecy. At his coronation feast Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost and is terrified.
6. Macbeth meets the witches again, and they give him three messages...
7. Macduff is King Duncan's loyal servant, so Macbeth attacks his castle and has his family killed.
8. Lady Macbeth feels so guilty that she begins to walk and talk in her sleep – and constantly washes her hands to clean off the blood of those Macbeth has murdered.
9. Macduff gathers his army near Birnam Wood, close to Dunsinane Castle – but because of the witches prophecies, Macbeth is not worried.
10. Macduff orders his men to chop down branches from the trees and disguise themselves as they march on the castle. Macbeth realises that the second prediction has come true.
11. Macbeth is deserted by his men, but stays to fight on – confident that the witches final prediction will protect him – none from a woman borne can harm him. But then he discovers something unexpected...
12. Macduff kills Macbeth, returning the crown to its rightful owner, Malcolm.

*When shall we three meet again? In thunder, lightning or in rain?*

*O, full of scorpions is my mind, dear wife.*

*Quit my sight! Let the earth hide thee!*

*Give to th'edge o'th'sword his wife, babes, and all...*

*All hail Macbeth, that shalt be king hereafter.*

*I will not be afraid of death and bane till Birnam Forest come to Dunsinane.*

*Hail, King of Scotland!!!*

*Look like th'innocent flower, but be the serpent under't.*

*Beware Macduff!*

*None of woman born shall harm Macbeth.*

*Macbeth shall never vanquished be until Great Birnam Wood to high Dunsinane Hill shall come against him.*

*Turn, hell-hound, turn. Macduff was from his mother's womb untimely ripped.*

*Out damned spot! Out I say! Here's the smell of blood still.*

*And now a wood comes towards Dunsinane.*

## 12 VOCABULARY QUESTIONS

**Which noun means 'excessive pride or confidence'?**

1. Hubris.
2. Hamartia.
3. Machiavellian.
4. Villainy.

**Which noun is a strong desire to do or achieve something?**

1. Hamartia.
2. Ambition.
3. Catharsis.
4. Desire.

**Which noun means manliness?**

1. Femininity
2. Masculinity.
3. Matriarchal.
4. Patriarchal.

**Which adjective means cunning and sly?**

1. Machiavellian.
2. Patriarchal.
3. Ambitious.
4. Chivalrous.

**Femininity is...**

1. The quality of being male.
2. Being a weak man.
3. Rejecting your womanliness.
4. The quality of being female.

**A prophecy is...**

1. Encouragement to do bad things.
2. Encouragement to do good things.
3. Interpreting events in the past.
4. A prediction of the future.

**A soliloquy is...**

1. A speech given to the audience.
2. A release from strong emotions.
3. A belief in the supernatural.
4. Another name for the royal family.

**Which adjective describes a social system where men hold the power and influence??**

1. Paternal.
2. Patriarchal.
3. Maternal.
4. Matriarchal.

**What is chivalry?**

1. Cowardice, diplomacy, courtesy.
2. Bravery, military skill, courtesy.
3. Wicked or criminal behaviour.
4. Unfair, unjust and cruel rule.

**What is duplicity?**

1. Honesty and straight-forwardness.
2. Excessive pride or confidence.
3. A strong desire or wish for someone.
4. Deceitfulness or being two-faced.

**Which noun is a worry that you are being persecuted or picked on?**

1. Cowardice.
2. Tyranny.
3. Catharsis.
4. Paranoia.

**Which verb means to take someone's place illegally or by force?**

1. Usurp.
2. Prophesise.
3. Tyrannise.
4. Desire.

**Tyranny is...**

1. Wicked or criminal behaviour.
2. A belief in the supernatural.
3. A serious disagreement or argument.
4. An unfair, unjust or cruel governance.

**Hamartia is...**

1. A fatal flaw leading to a hero's downfall.
2. Releasing strong emotions.
3. A worry you're being victimised.
4. Deceitful behaviour.