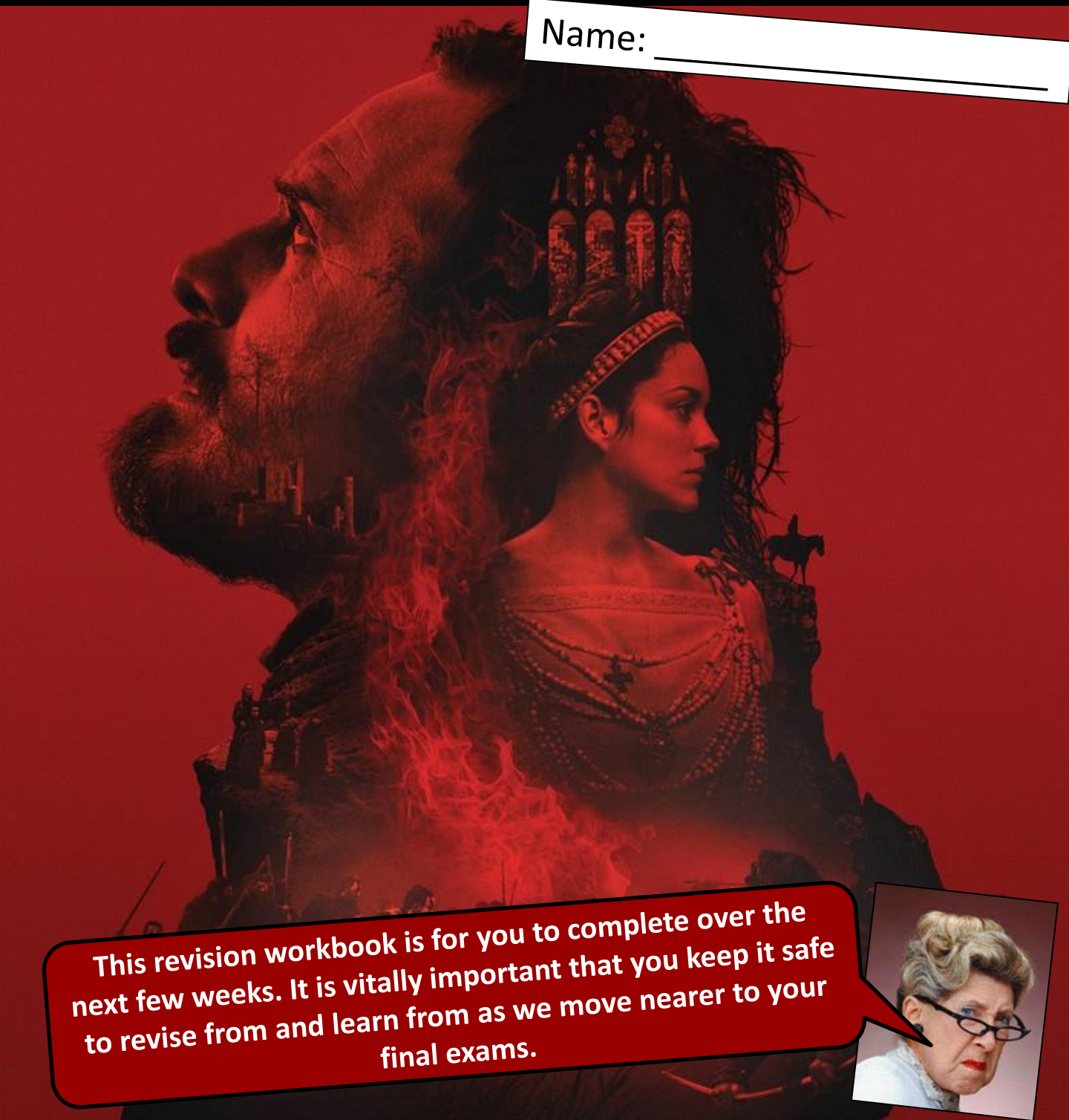
Literature Paper 1

Edna the Examiner's Macbeth Workbook

Name: _____



This revision workbook is for you to complete over the next few weeks. It is vitally important that you keep it safe to revise from and learn from as we move nearer to your final exams.

Act 1, Scene 1: Meet the Witches

What happened?



The opening scene is set in "Thunder and Lightening." How does this stage direction reflect the witches?

This pathetic fallacy continues with reference to "fog and filthy air" – how does this reflect the witches and their actions?

What do we learn about the witches from their question, "when shall we three meet again?"

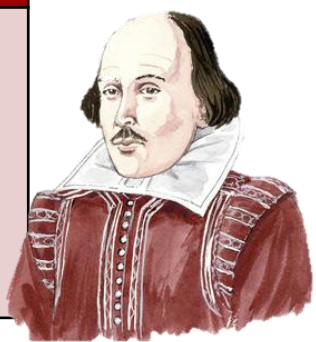
Why do you think Shakespeare used rhyming couplets and heavy alliteration in this scene?

If there's one quote to know: What do we learn about the witches from their final rhyming couplet?

"Fair is foul and foul is fair"

Shakespeare's purpose: Compare how the differing audience's context would shape their reaction to this scene.

Jacobean Audience	Modern Audience



Act 1, Scene 2: Brave Macbeth

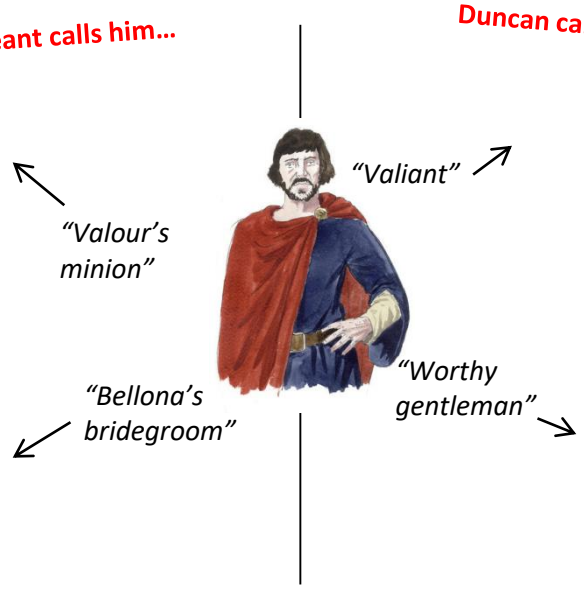
What happened?



Macbeth the hero: What do we learn about Macbeth from this scene?

The Sergeant calls him…

Duncan calls him…



Shakespeare's craft: Duncan executes the Thane of Cawdor for plotting against him. But why is this dramatic irony? What does this suggest about Duncan and power?

Bravery: Both Macbeth and Banquo are unquestionably brave and heroic here. Is Macbeth's bravery a strength throughout the play?

Act 1, Scene 3: The Witches meet Macbeth

What happened?

Imagery: Shakespeare refers to Macbeth's new power using clothing: "borrowed robes" and "strange garments." What does this suggest?



Macbeth vs. Banquo: How do the two friends react to the witches?

Key Quote	What do they think about the witches?	Pick a language choice – what does this tell us?
Banquo: "look not like the inhabitants o' the earth"		
Banquo: "What! Can the devil speak true?"		
Macbeth: "strange intelligence"		
Macbeth: "would they had stayed"		

Shakespeare's Purpose: How does Shakespeare want to present Macbeth and Banquo through their reaction to the witches?

Macbeth ->

Banquo ->



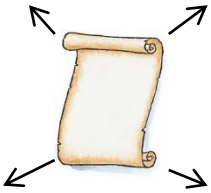
Act 1, Scene 4: The Witches meet Macbeth

Malcolm reports to King Duncan he has heard Cawdor has now been executed. Duncan greets Macbeth and promotes him to Thane of Cawdor. He heaps praise and love on him: "only I have left to say, More is thy due than more than all can pay." They agree to meet at Macbeth's castle for a celebratory feast.

Act 1, Scene 5: Introducing Lady Macbeth

What happened?

"My dearest partner of greatness" What do we learn about the Macbeth's marriage from this letter?



What do we learn in this scene about Lady Macbeth's view on….

Duncan: What does she think of Duncan?

"the raven himself is hoarse
That croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan"

Gender: What does she think of her gender?

"Unsex me here…take my milk for gall"

Supernatural: What does she think of the supernatural?

"Come, you spirits"

Macbeth: What does she think of her husband?

"too full o' the milk of human kindness"

Herself: What does she think of herself?

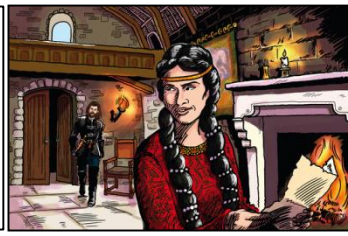
"I may… chastise with the valour of my tongue
All that impedes thee from the golden round"



If there's one quote to know: What are Lady Macbeth's desires for Macbeth? How does Shakespeare use language here to present her intentions?

"look like the innocent flower,
But be the serpent under't."

STRETCH: How is this quote also reflective of Lady Macbeth?



Act 1, Scene 6: Duncan Arrives

Appearance vs Reality: Here we see how the appearance of the Macbeth's is different to the reality. Explore this here…

Key Quote	What is the appearance?	What is the reality?
Duncan: "This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself"		
Lady M: "All our service In every point twice done and then done double"		



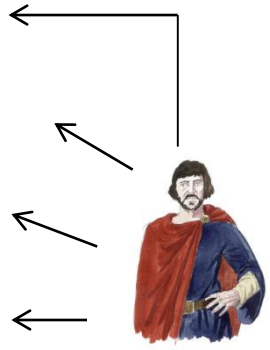
"our honour'd hostess…. Conduct me to mine host: we love him highly" How does the Macbeth's clash between appearance & reality compare to Duncan? How does this shape our view of him?

Act 1, Scene 7: Macbeth Wobbles

What happened?

Macbeth's soliloquy: Why does Macbeth feel he shouldn't now kill King Duncan? Consider the following:

- *"Who should…shut the door, Not bear the knife myself"*
- *"hath been So clear in his great office"*
- *"I am his kinsman and his subject"*
- *"Return To plague the inventor: this even-handed justice"*



Key Quote	What do we learn about Macbeth / Lady Macbeth?	Select a key language choice – how does this reflect the character?
Macbeth: "I have no spur To prick the sides of my intent, but only Vaulting ambition"		
Macbeth: "I dare do all that may become a man; Who dares do more is none."		
Lady M: "Art thou afeard To be the same in thine own act and valour As thou art in desire?"		
Lady M: "…dash'd the brains out, had I so sworn as you Have done to this"		

Considering the above – what does Lady Macbeth question and attack?

How is Macbeth presented if he caves in to Lady Macbeth?

The Macbeths: In this scene, how are the two characters presented?

Macbeth

Lady Macbeth



Shakespeare's Purpose: How does Shakespeare present in this scene…

Appearance & Reality	*Women*	*Masculinity*

Act 2, Scene 1: Is this a dagger?

What happened?

Banquo in A2, S1:

Banquo: I dreamt last night of the three weird sisters: To you they have show'd some truth.

MACBETH: I think not of them:



How have the witches affected Banquo differently to Macbeth?

How has their relationship changed? Why?

Shakespeare's Craft: Consider Shakespeare's use of the following and how they reflect his message…



Darkness: *"Candles are all out… [it] lies like lead upon me"* How does the darkness metaphorically reflect the scene?

Hallucinations: *"Is this a dagger which I see before me?"* What does this hallucination signify? What is the significance of the dagger?



How is Macbeth presented in his soliloquy?

"…a false creation, Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?"



"…witchcraft celebrates Pale Hecate's offerings"

"…With Tarquin's ravishing strides"



"…That summons thee to heaven or to hell."

Macbeth the reluctant villain: *Do you think Macbeth is a villain at this stage? What is the audience view of him currently?*



Act 2, Scene 2: Macbeth's Guilt

What happened?

"Had he not resembled My father as he slept, I had done't"
What do we learn about Lady Macbeth while she waits?



The Macbeths: How do the two character deal with the immediate aftermath of the murder?

Macbeth **Lady Macbeth**



Imagery of Water: How does the imagery of water demonstrate the two character's reactions?

Key Quote	What do we learn about Macbeth / Lady Macbeth?	Select a key language choice – how does this reflect the character?
Macbeth: "Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand?"		
Lady Macbeth: "A little water clears us of this deed"		

Shakespeare's Message: From this scene, what is Shakespeare's message about:

Gender ->

The Macbeth's Marriage ->

Macbeth ->

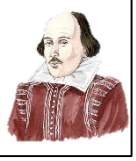
Lady Macbeth ->



Act 2, Scene 3: Duncan is found

What happened?

Shakespeare's Choices: Why do you think Shakespeare had Duncan murdered off stage? (Consider the context and act)



Imagery of Hell: Consider the imagery used in the bubble to the left. Why does Shakespeare use this semantic field of hell here?



'hell-gate'

'strange screams of death'

'I'the name of Belzebub'

Act 2, Scene 4: King Macbeth

Ross, an Old man and Macduff discuss the murder of King Duncan and the fact his sons have run away. Macduff does not hide the fact he suspects Macbeth of being involved, and in a show of his lack of support, he says he is not going to Scone to see Macbeth be crowned King.

Act 3, Scene 1: Macbeth's Suspicion

What happened?

Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all,
As the weird women promised, and, I fear,
Thou play'dst most foully for't:



Banquo: Why does Macbeth feel he needs to kill Banquo? Consider the prophecies: why is this decision to kill him quite ironic?

The Murderers: What does the fact Macbeth discusses the death of Banquo in secret with murderers suggest about him? How has he changed?



Lady Macbeth: Is not a art of this plan to kill Banquo. What does this suggest about Macbeth?



Act 3, Scene 2: Macbeth is Changing…

What happened?

If there's one quote to know: What does the language here suggest about Macbeth?

"O, full of scorpions is my mind"



At the start: Lady Macbeth was called "my dearest partner in greatness"

Now, Macbeth refers to her as 'dearest chuck': How has their relationship changed? What does this show about both characters?

Act 3, Scene 3: Banquo's Murder

What happened?

Three Murderers: We find out here that Macbeth has enlisted a third murderer – what does this tell us about Macbeth and being King?

Light: Consider the metaphor of light. What does the metaphor suggest about the situation in the previous and current scene? Consider carefully at which point in the scene the lines are said.

Key Quote	What do we learn about Macbeth / Lady Macbeth?
A3, Sc2: Macbeth says "light thickens"	
Line 5: "The west yet glimmers with some streaks of day"	
Line 19: "Who did strike out the light?"	

Fleance escapes: What does this suggest about the prophecies / Macbeth's position?

Act 3, Scene 4: Ghost of Banquo Scene

What happened?

"Sit, worthy friends: my lord is often thus, And hath been from his youth" Lady Macbeth covers for Macbeth and directs the nobles when to stay and when to leave. What does this show about:

Macbeth:



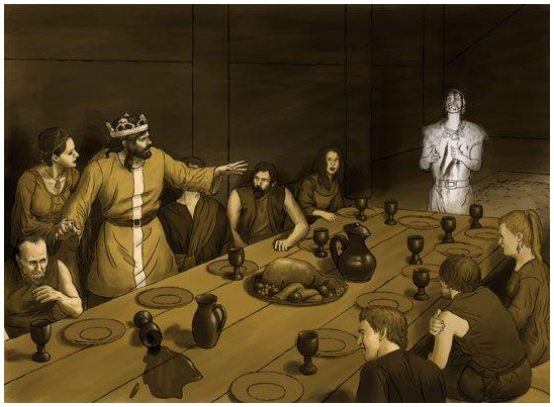
Lady Macbeth:



The finest and most powerful of Scotland have come to feast:

What should this night have been for the Macbeths?

What was it actually?



Banquo's position: What is the significance of the ghost sitting in Macbeth's seat?

Banquo's ghost: Why does Macbeth see the ghost? Why is it key that only he can see it; what does that demonstrate about Macbeth?

Whose missing from the feast? Why is this key?

What would the thanes have been thinking at this point?

How does Macbeth's kingship compare to Duncan's currently?



Shakespeare's Message: What is he trying to tell us about kingship by showing the two men's differing rules?



The supernatural: How has it developed over the play to this scene?

Shakespeare's Message: What is he trying to tell us about the supernatural?

Act 3, Scene 5: Hecate

What happened?

What does the Witches' language indicate about their view of Macbeth?

They describe him as a "son" who is "wayward"

They say "security" is his "chiefest enemy"

They "trade and traffic" with him

Act 3, Scene 6: Macduff Builds an Army

Lennox and a Lord discuss current affairs and how unpopular and tyrannical Macbeth's rule is. They state that Macduff is raising an army in Northumberland (England)

Act 4, Scene 1: Three More Prophecies

What happened?

What are the three prophecies?

Key Quote	What do we learn about Macbeth?	Select a key language choice – how does this reflect his character / reaction to the witches?
The witches exclaim at Macbeth's arrival "something wicked this way comes"		
Macbeth demands of them: "I conjure you… answer me To what I ask you."		
When he hears of the threat of Macduff: "I'll make assurance double sure, And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live"		
When Macbeth hears the prophecy about Birnham Wood: "That will never be Who can impress the forest, bid the tree Unfix his earth-bound root?"		

Act 4, Scene 2: Macduff's Family Dies

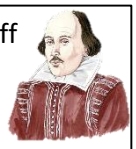
What happened?

"…to leave his wife, to leave his babes,
His mansion and his titles in a place
From whence himself does fly? He loves us not"



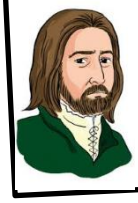
Lady Macduff denounces her husband as a villain, but he is arguably the hero of the play. Do you think he is heroic or villainous for leaving his family?

Shakespeare's Choices: Why do you think Shakespeare had the son murdered on stage, but Lady Macduff murdered off it?



Act 4, Scene 3: Macduff Finds Out

What happened?



Ross: Why do you think Ross didn't mention to Macduff that he was there just before the murders?

Compare how Macduff and Macbeth react to the news of their wives' death. Referring to the language choices; what do their reactions indicate about their character?

Macduff: "What, all my pretty chickens and their dam, at one fell swoop?"	**Macbeth:** "Out, out, brief candle"

Act 5, Scene 1: "Out Damned Spot!"

What happened?

What does the spot and the washing action represent?

Lady Macbeth has spoke in strong blank verse throughout the play… until now: How has her language now changed? How is this reflective of her?

Macbeth: "Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand?"

Lady Macbeth: "A little water clears us of this deed"

Remember the Macbeth's reference to water when they killed Duncan: Why is this so significant in this scene? What is Shakespeare's message through this?



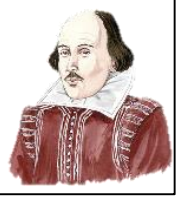
In Act 3, scene 2 she said, ***"What's done is done"***
Now, ***"What's done cannot be undone"***

What's changed?

What is the significance of the two lines above? What has changed? What is Shakespeare's message through this?

"To bed, to bed, to bed!"
What is being suggested through the language here?

Shakespeare's Message: What do you think his message s about women through Lady Macbeth's demise?



Act 5, Scene 2 - 4: The Battle

Scene 2

What happened?

Remember Shakespeare's use of clothing imagery earlier in the play: Now the advancing army says Macbeth "feel his title hang loose about him like a giant's robe upon a dwarfish thief." What does the language here suggest about Macbeth's rule?

Act 1, Sc 3: "borrowed robes" and "strange garments."



Scene 3

What happened?

The doctor remarks Lady Macbeth is "troubled with thick-coming fancies": how is this also true of Macbeth?

"Cure her of that": What does Macbeth's reply to the doctor indicate about him at this stage?

Scene 4

What happened?

Macbeth mentions the life he could have had; a life of "honour", "love" and "troops of friends." How does this affect our interpretation of him?

"Bring me no more reports, let them fly" What do we learn about Macbeth's approach to battle? Why is this? What does Shakespeare imply through this?



Act 5, Scene 5 - 6: Macbeth's Downfall

Scene 5

What happened?

Just like Duncan and Lady Macduff, we don't see her die. Why?

Macbeth's reaction: He says her death is "signifying nothing" but also "I 'gin to be aweary of the sun" – how does he feel about her death?



Birnham Wood moves towards the castle: How have the prophecies destroyed Macbeth?

Scene 6

What happened?



Key Quote	What is our final impression of Macbeth?
At the battle's start: "They have tied me to a stake… But, bear-like, I must fight"	
Mid-battle: "But swords I smile at, weapons laugh to scorn"	
When defeat seems inevitable: "Why should I play the Roman fool, and die On mine own sword? "	
When confronted with Macduff – someone not 'born of woman': "I'll not fight with thee."	

Macbeth's Return: In what way is Macbeth similar at the end to the Macbeth we met at the start?

Shakespeare's Message: What is Shakespeare's message through this?

Audience reaction: Despite giving into the witches and committing such atrocities in the name of his own ambition; this return to his earlier state has what impact on the audience?



Betrayal: In Act 1, Macbeth is aware "we but teach bloody instructions, which, being taught, return to plague the inventor." How has this been proven true? Why does this underpin the tragedy of the tale?

Considering Macbeth

Macbeth's downfall is as a result of these three key factors. For each one, explain the extent it was the key factor in his downfall.

Factor	To what extent is it responsible for his downfall?
His ambition	
His wife	
The Witches	
His insecurity	

Context: Masculinity



In Jacobean England, why was a male's masculinity so important?

Why was masculinity particularly important to Macbeth?

Masculinity: How is it presented throughout the play?

Key Quote	How does Shakespeare present masculinity here?	Does this conform r clash with contextual expectations?
"…with his brandish'd steel, Which smoked with bloody execution"		
"We shall proceed no further in this business"		
"Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand?"		
MALCOLM Dispute it like a man. **MACDUFF** I shall do so, But I must also feel it as a man.		
I cannot fly, But, bear-like, I must fight the course		

Shakespeare's Message: What is Shakespeare's message about masculinity?



Context: Supernatural



In Jacobean England, what did people believe about the supernatural?

What was King James' view of the supernatural? Why is this relevant?

The Supernatural: How is it presented in the play?

Key Quote	How does Shakespeare present the supernatural here?	Select a language choice – how does this reflect the supernatural?
Thunder and lightning. Enter three Witches		
"would they had stayed" "come you spirits"		
"Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand? "		
"Approach thou like the rugged Russian bear… or the Hyrcan tiger; Take any shape but that"		
"Out, damned spot! out, I say!"		

Shakespeare's Message: What is Shakespeare's message about the supernatural?



Context: Women



In Shakespeare's England, women were….

Lady Macbeth: Is she adhere to these traditional expectations, or not?

Key Quote	How does Shakespeare present women here?	Does this conform to traditional expectations or not?
"Unsex me here"		
"…Have pluck'd my nipple from his boneless gums, And dash'd the brains out"		
"My hands are of your colour; but I shame To wear a heart so white."		
"Sit, worthy friends: my lord is often thus"		
"Out, damned spot! out, I say!"		

Shakespeare's Message: What is Shakespeare telling us about women through Lady Macbeth?



Context: The Great Chain of Being



What was the Great Chain of Being?

How negotiable was the Great Chain of Being? What were the consequences?

The Great Chain of Being: How does Shakespeare present it in Macbeth??

Key Quote	How does Shakespeare present the Great Chain of Being here?	Select a language choice – how does this reflect the Great Chain of Being?
"All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter!"		
"Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against The deep damnation of his taking-off;"		
"Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell That summons thee to heaven or to hell."		
"…laugh to scorn The power of man, for none of woman born Shall harm Macbeth."		

Shakespeare's Message: What is Shakespeare telling us about the Great Chain of Being?



The Witches

Who are the witches? What do they do?

What did the Elizabethan women think of witches and the supernatural?

What would an Elizabethan audience have thought / felt considering the witches play such a significant role in the story?

How does Macbeth regard the witches? What does that tell us about Macbeth?

Key Quote	What do we learn about the witches?	Pick a language choice – what does this tell us about him?
The witches state “And oftentimes to win us to our harm. The instruments of darkness tell us truth”		
Macbeth wishes “they had stayed”		
It is claimed that “infected be the air wheron they ride. And damned all those who trust them”		

The Witches



In the very first scene, the witches state they are “there to meet Macbeth” – even though he does not know they exist yet. In what way is Macbeth a victim of the witches?

Tick each of the following things that the witches told Macbeth.

- ❑ Kill King Duncan
- ❑ Your sons will be King
- ❑ Kill Macduff
- ❑ Kill Banquo
- ❑ Kill Fleance
- ❑ You will never die
- ❑ You are safe until Birnham Wood moves to Dunsinane
- ❑ Banquo’s sons will be kings
- ❑ You will be Thane of Cawdor and King.
- ❑ No man ‘of woman born’ can hurt you.

What does this tell us about Macbeth’s understandings of the witches prophecies? Why does he interpret them incorrectly?

Shakespeare’s purpose: The witches are meant to represent evil. Therefore, what do we learn about evil from the witches presentation in the play?

Evil



King Duncan

Who is King Duncan? What does he do?

How would you describe King Duncan's leadership?

How does this compare to Macbeth's leadership?

Key Quote	What do we learn about King Duncan?	Pick a language choice – what does this tell us about him?
To Macbeth: "More is thy due than more than all can pay" (*I need to give you more than I can pay)*	Kind and generous. He has huge respect for Macbeth as a soldier and a person. They are kinsmen.	The verb "pay" has connotations of wealth, generosity and prosperity. This indicates how keen he is to share his wealth.
"This Duncan hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been so clear in his great office" *(Duncan is quiet about his wealth, but great in his role)*		
When considering Duncan's death, Macbeth remarks "tears shall drown the wind"		

If there's one quote to know: How does Duncan's death juxtapose with his character?

"His virtues will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued,
against The deep damnation of his taking-off"

Macbeth

Who is Macbeth? What does he do?

This play is a tragedy because Macbeth is not a completely bad person. Brainstorm the good and the bad qualities that he has:





Key Quote	What do we learn about Macbeth?	Pick a language choice – what does this tell us about him?
The Captain says: "For brave Macbeth – well he deserves that name"		
Lady Macbeth says: "Yet do I fear thy nature; it is too full o'the milk of human-kindness to catch the nearest way"		
Banquo says: "Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all, As the weird women promised, and, I fear, Thou play'dst most foully for't" (for it)		
Malcolm after Macbeth's death: "This dead butcher"		

Macbeth

Key word: *Hamartia*

A fatal flaw



What is Macbeth's hamartia? How is it presented through the language?

"No spur to prick the sides of my intent,
but only vaulting ambition"

Is it Macbeth's ambition or the witches prophecies that lead him to act the way he does?



Macbeth and The Witches

A Jacobean audience believed the only one above the King was God – so Macbeth is placed between the ultimate good and the ultimate evil. How does this impact our understanding of Macbeth?

God (Good)

↓

Macbeth

↑

Witches (Evil)

Shakespeare's Purpose: Consider the presentation of Macbeth and King Duncan – what is Shakespeare's message about Kingship?

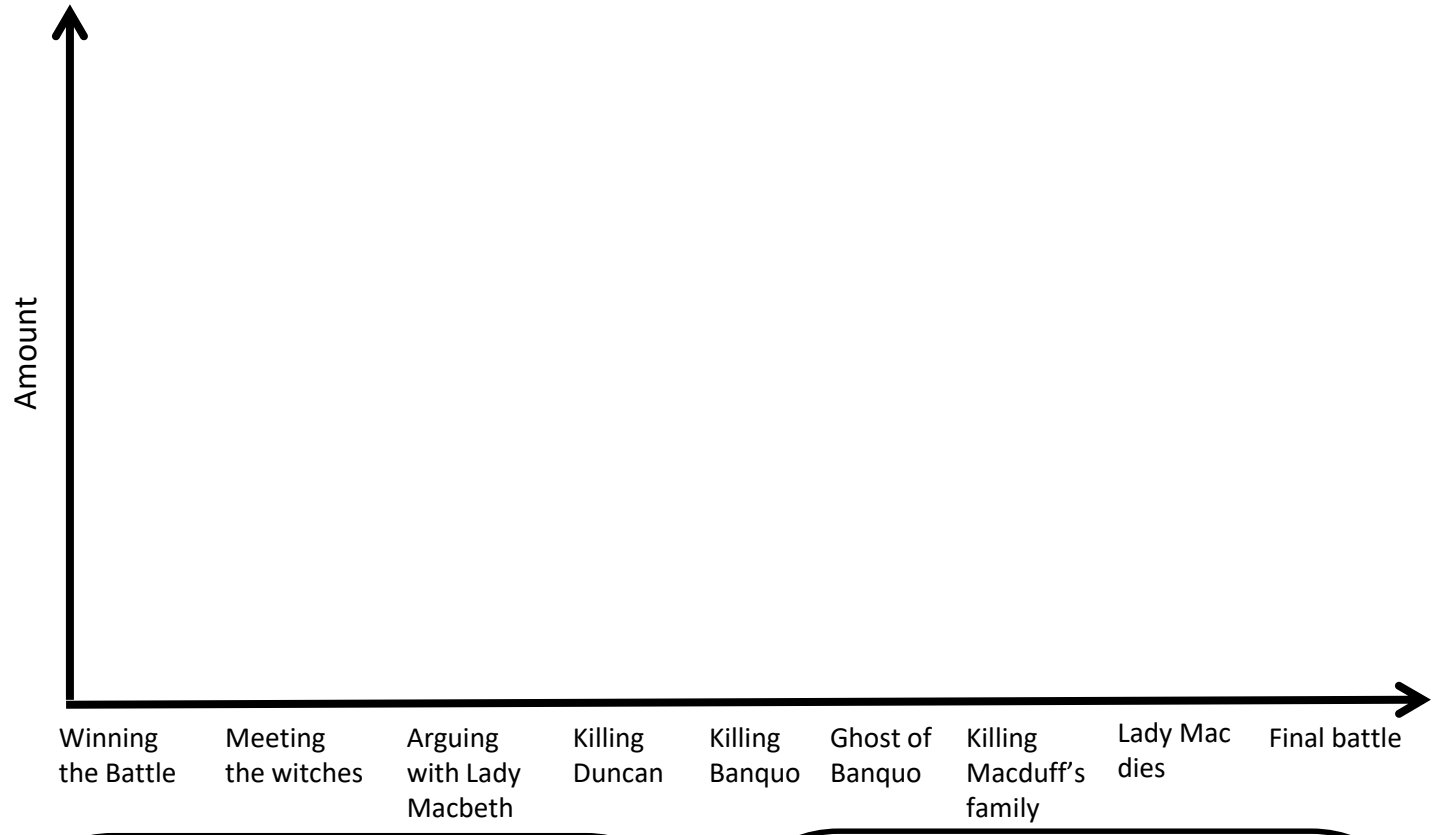
Is Macbeth a secure King? How does this affect his decisions?



Macbeth

Macbeth transforms over the course of the play: For each of the following characteristics, draw a line graph indicating how that trait increases or decreases over the course of the play.

☐ Ambition ☐ Loyalty ☐ Tyranny ☐ Fear ☐ Courage ☐ _____



Context: A Jacobean interpretation of 'masculinity is:

As King, Macbeth should be the 'ultimate' masculine. In what way does he conform or clash with this?

Banquo

Who is Banquo? What does he do?

Banquo, in may ways, is the opposite to Macbeth. Explain how they juxtapose in each of the following:

Loyalty ->

Honour and Integrity->

Key Quote	What do we learn about Banquo?	Pick a language choice – what does this tell us about him?
The witches say he will be "Lesser than Macbeth, and greater"		
King Duncan says "Noble Banquo that hast no less deserved, nor must be known, no less to have done so"		
Macbeth says: "If you shall cleave to my consent, when tis it shall make honour for you". *Banquo replies he is loyal to the King.*		

If there's one quote to know: How is Banquo presented in the following?

"In his royalty of nature reigns that which would be feared… He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour"

Macduff

Who is Macduff? What does he do?

Critically, Macduff leaves his family to flee to England. Was this the right thing to do?

What does this tell us about his character and choices?



Key Quote	What do we learn about Macduff?	Pick a language device – what does this tell us about him?
His peers refer to him as "Dear Duff"		
Macbeth says: "Then live, Macduff, what need I fear of thee?"		
It is said of his decision to leave his family, "His flight was madness: when our actions do not, our fears do make us traitors"		
Malcolm says: "Macduff, this noble passion…. Thy good truth and honour"		

Lady Macbeth

Who is Lady Macbeth? What does she do?

Lady Macbeth is four things: For each of them, explain how and why she is each of them.

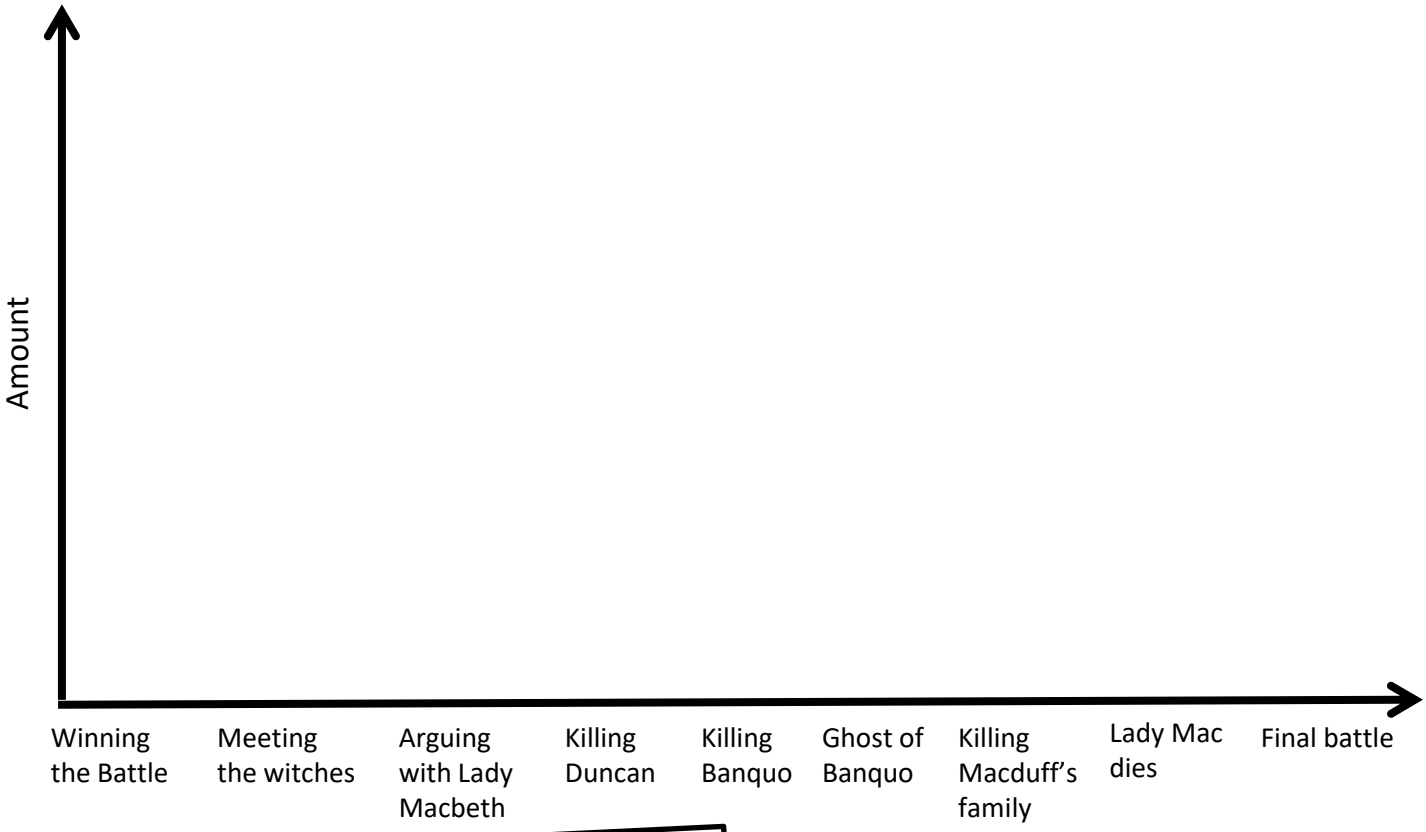
Dominant	
Cunning	
Determined	
Haunted	

Key Quote	What do we learn about Lady Macbeth?	Pick a language device – what does this tell us about him?
King Duncan calls her "our honoured hostess" and "fair and noble hostess"		
Macbeth calls her "my dearest partner of greatness!"		
"unsex me here, And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full Of direst cruelty."		
At the end, Malcolm refers to her as a "fiend-like queen"		

Lady Macbeth

Lady Macbeth also transforms over the course of the play: For each of the characteristics, draw a line graph indicating how that trait increases or decreases over the course of the play.

☐ Ambition ☐ Loyalty ☐ Strength ☐ Fear ☐ Love ☐ _____



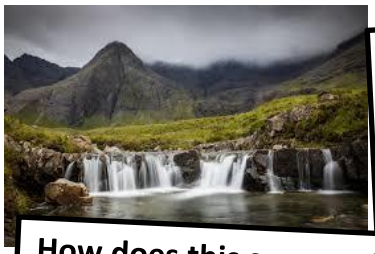
To what extent do you think Lady Macbeth challenges expectations of Jacobean women?

To what extent do you think she conforms to expectations of Jacobean women?

Just a thought: Lady Macbeth is one of only 4 Shakespeare characters to have a statue in Stratford. Why do you think they chose her?



Setting



In Shakespeare's time, what was people's perception of Scotland?

How does this support Shakespeare's purpose in Macbeth?

Heathlands ←



Castles →



List the key events that occur outside:

List the key events that occur within castle walls:

Based on this, what qualities does Shakespeare suggest this location has:

Based on this, what qualities does Shakespeare suggest this location has:

Macbeth is crowned in Scone, a holy place. Why does Shakespeare do this?

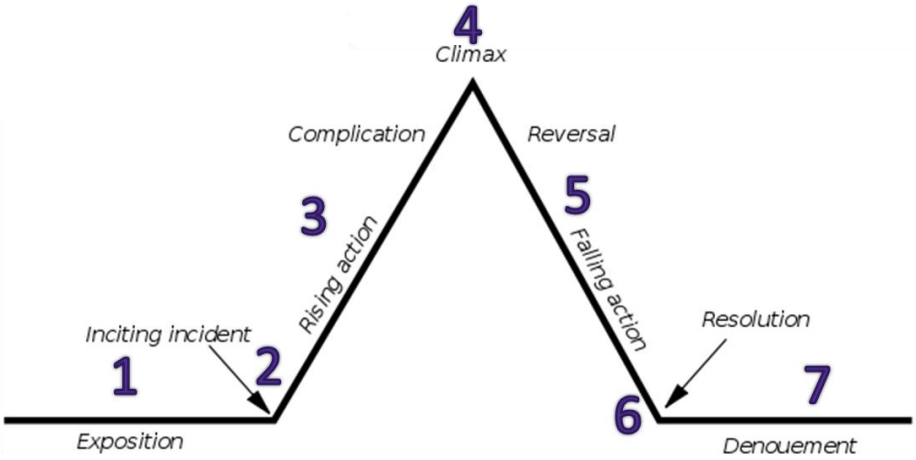
How is this backed up by the origins and stereotypes of castles?

Structure of the Play

The easiest way of analysing structure is by considering Freytag's theory of dramatic structure

Freytag's theory is:

Shakespeare always followed Freytag's theory in his tragedies: why do you think he did that?



Analysing Structure: For each of the 7 points, state what is happening and then explain Priestley's message through this structural choice…

	What happens?	What is Shakespeare's message?
1	*Eg: The witches meet on a heath and declare their desire for chaos and their intention to meet Macbeth.*	*The supernatural and it's associations with evil is the catalyst for all the play's events, showing how Macbeth's choices and outcomes are rooted in evil.*
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

Motifs

Hallucinations

Key Quote	How does the character interpret the hallucination?	Why do you think Shakespeare chose that hallucination?
"Is this a dagger which I see before me?"		
"Thou canst not say I did it: never shake Thy gory locks at me."		
"Out damned spot!"		

Violence

Key Quote	How is this violence presented? What does this demonstrate about the character in question?
Macbeth and Banquo's role in the opening battle.	
Duncan's murder	
Banquo's murder	
Lady Macduff and her son's murder	
The final battle where Macbeth is slain.	

Blood

For each of the below, explain what the blood represents and how it is regarded by the character…

"Which smoked with bloody execution"	
"Make thick my blood"	
"And on thy blade and dudgeon gouts of blood"	
"Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood"	
"It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood"	
"Here's the smell of the blood still"	

Shakespeare's Purpose: Considering the above, what do you think the blood is meant to symbolise in Macbeth?



Ambition

Shakespeare's Purpose: How significant is the theme of ambition? Why is it so central to the tragedy of the play?



Stay, you imperfect speakers, tell me more	When Macbeth hears the witches' prophecy he says this. What does this indicate about his ambition?
The instruments of darkness tell us truths	Banquo recognises the truth in the witches prophecies, yet he does not act on his despite his own ambitions. Why?
It is too full o' the milk of human kindness To catch the nearest way: thou wouldst be great; Art not without ambition,	What does Lady Macbeth suggest about ambition? How does her ambition compare to 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.	How does Macbeth regard his own ambition?

Shakespeare's Message: What is his message about ambition?

Prophecy & Fate

What did 'weird' mean originally? What is the significance of the 'Weird Sisters' in this theme?



How is this prophecy presented and what does that demonstrate about the characters involved?

Prophecy to Macbeth in Act 1:	❑ Self-fulfilling? ❑ Comes true? ❑ Riddle?	
Prophecy to Banquo in Act 1:	❑ Self-fulfilling? ❑ Comes true? ❑ Riddle?	
Prophecy 1 to Macbeth in Act 4	❑ Self-fulfilling? ❑ Comes true? ❑ Riddle?	
Prophecy 2 to Macbeth in Act 4	❑ Self-fulfilling? ❑ Comes true? ❑ Riddle?	
Prophecy 3 to Macbeth in Act 4	❑ Self-fulfilling? ❑ Comes true? ❑ Riddle?	

Shakespeare's Message: What is he trying to tell his Elizabethan audience about prophecies and fate?

Revenge

What is the difference between revenge and justice?

	Justice or Revenge?	How does Shakespeare present this revenge? What is his message through this act?
Duncan asks whether the traitor Cawdor has been executed (Act 1)		
Macbeth executes Duncan's guards. (Act 2)		
Banquo's ghost appears to Macbeth. (Act 3)		
Banquo's ghost 'smiles' at Macbeth in the witches' apparition. (Act 4)		
Macduff kills Macbeth (Act 5)		

"It will have blood; they say, blood will have blood:" To what extent is this true in Macbeth? What is Shakespeare's message about revenge?

Kingship

Comparing Kings: How would you describe the rule of each of the Kings in the play?

	King Duncan	Macbeth
How did they come to power?		
What are their strengths as a King?		
What are their weaknesses?		
What is Shakespeare's message about this leadership style?		

"this Duncan Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been So clear in his great office, that his virtues Will plead like angels," Macbeth is very aware what is required of a King. Why do you think he's unable to replicate it?

Shakespeare's Message: What do you think is Shakespeare's message about kingship through this? (Remember, he wrote this play for a King…)



Constructing an Essay



You can know everything in the world about the play – but if you don't give me what I want then you wont get what you want.

Edna the Examiner wants to see in your essay:

Can you use the evidence in the extract and references to the wider novel to respond to a task, with:

- ❑ Suitable evidence
- ❑ Analysis of language.
- ❑ Subject terminology.
- ❑ A consideration of the effect on the reader.
- ❑ Links between context and task.
- ❑ Consideration of the overall effect on the reader (What does Stevenson want you to think / feel / know?

You do not need all of these in every paragraph, but they must be in evidence across your essay.

Steps to success:

1. Plan your response by annotating 4 to 5 pieces of evidence from the text with what they inform you about the task's focus.
2. Conceptualise your point of view on the question (see example on next page).
3. Aim for 4-5 PEA paragraphs (see below)
4. Conclude by summarising your overall view, with a consideration of Shakespeare's purpose.

A PEEZL paragraph – but you do not need to go in order!

Point: How is Lady Macbeth presented? Include **e**vidence.

Explain your view on her.

Zoom in on a key language choice.

Link your interpretation to a **contextual** point.

Link to another point in the play.

Link this all back to Shakespeare's purpose.

From her introduction, Lady Macbeth is established as an unorthodox woman who challenges the expectations of the Jacobean era. Upon hearing of Duncan's imminent arrival, she exclaims the "raven himself is hoarse" in announcing Duncan's impending doom. This ability to make choices without her husband's consent challenges the notions of women being inferior, weaker and unable to contribute to family decisions. However, her assuredness is misplaced for her husband then initially refuses to follow her demands; such would be the male obligation at the time. Macbeth's vain attempts to determine the decisions that the couple make seem to be an attempt to keep Lady Macbeth in her traditional, weaker position, but she presents an image of being too strong a persona to adopt such a meek role. Her reference to a "raven," a symbol of death, demonstrates her apparent comfort with violence and murder; challenging the perception that women should not associate themselves with such barbaric, masculine ideals. However, she personifies the "raven" in referring to him as a male: "himself." This could suggest that although she is happy to associate herself with death, it remains in the domain of the male to deliver it to the victim. Shakespeare therefore presents a woman conflicted between her place in society, her belief she commands greater influence; yet socially paralysed by her acceptance it is her husband who delivers the final say.

A Level 7+ Essay

Know a key quote that encapsulates your argument? Why not open your essay with it?

It's important you treat each essay like an argument – use your introduction to conceptualise your personal, unique opinion and spend the rest of your essay validating it and exploring it in more depth.

Move through in chronological order to chart the development of the character or theme.

Explore your interpretations consistently by offering more then one thought or reaction. Layer these up – but never repeat one's you've already said.

Each paragraph comes back to Shakespeare's message – you must remember this s not <u>just</u> a play, but Shakespeare's message to the world about a whole number of contexts and themes. What is he trying to say?

I refer to the structure of the play, using Freytag, and explain how that impacts my interpretations.

Context is not something just bolted on once, but it runs through all my interpretations.

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present Lady Macbeth as an untraditional Jacobean woman?

"Look the innocent flower but be the serpent under it"

Shakespeare's Lady Macbeth presents an illusion of being unlike a traditional Jacobean woman. However, beyond her assaults on her husband's character, her apparent comfort with the supernatural and her demands for the pursuit of Macbeth's ambition, there lies an emotionally weak character that is unable to deal with the consequences of her actions. Through Lady Macbeth, Shakespeare demonstrates that a woman's place in society is so entrenched, it is foolish and pitiful to challenge it; and to do so can have far-reaching, devastating consequences.

From her introduction, Lady Macbeth is established as an unorthodox woman who challenges the expectations of the Jacobean era. Upon hearing of Duncan's imminent arrival, she exclaims the "raven himself is hoarse" in announcing Duncan's impending doom. This ability to make choices without her husband's consent challenges the notions of women being inferior, weaker and unable to contribute to family decisions. However, her assuredness is misplaced for her husband then initially refuses to follow her demands; such would be the male obligation at the time. Macbeth's vain attempts to determine the decisions that the couple make seem to be an attempt to keep Lady Macbeth in her traditional, weaker position, but she presents an image of being too strong a persona to adopt such a meek role. Her reference to a "raven," a symbol of death, demonstrates her apparent comfort with violence and murder; challenging the perception that women should not associate themselves with such barbaric, masculine ideals. However, she personifies the "raven" in referring to him as a male: "himself." This could suggest that although she is happy to associate herself with death, it remains in the domain of the male to deliver it to the victim. Shakespeare therefore presents a woman conflicted between her place in society, her belief she commands greater influence; yet socially paralysed by her acceptance it is her husband who delivers the final say.

Lady Macbeth also shows the same acceptance of the supernatural as her husband, for she calls "come you spirits…. Unsex me here." In this most critical moment of her life, she instantaneously turns to the powers a Jacobean society would associate with evil, thereby marking her out as a disturbed, villainous woman and a far cry from the moral, upstanding woman the Jacobeans would have strove for. Yet, the fact she shares her husband's tolerance for the supernatural demonstrates their like-minded approach and reflects the depth their souls and minds are entwined – it would appear they share a very close love, as would be the goal for any Jacobean woman. Her call to be "unsexed" is a demand to be free of the innocence and purity that is associated with women – she no longer wishes to be an inferior associate in a masculine driven world, but instead be the driving force for Macbeth towards his ambition. Shakespeare echoes this notion of her as insignificant in society's whole through delaying her introduction until Act 1, Scene 5: in withholding her involvement until the rising action to the climax, Freytag's theory of dramatic structure demonstrates she is merely an additional factor in Macbeth's rise and fall, and not the catalyst. It is perhaps this desire to be a greater part of Macbeth's choices that stirs her to also reject manhood in her call to be "unsexed;" in doing so she refuses the notions of honour, dignity and respect for she recognises that to reach her and Macbeth's goal, they have to resort to immoral and violent means that would compromise the reputation of any man or woman.

Shakespeare shows how Lady Macbeth's comfort with violence and evil can be a bond between her and her husband. But, it can also be a weapon in which to manipulate him and be a driving force behind her actions, for she scorns she would "shame to wear a heart so white" when Macbeth refuses to return the daggers to

A Level 7+ Essay

I have not just followed a PEEZ structure all the way through, I have mixed up my order depending on what I want to achieve in each point.

My language analysis is consistent, rich and varied.

I have four, clear, different points that are taken from across the play, but there is a clear chronology and order to my thoughts – they are not just 4 random points I've come up with and whacked in my essay. In doing so, I show a clear understanding of the play as a whole.

I'm consistently challenging myself with differing interpretations and thoughts on how the language, actions and choices of characters could be interpreted.

I've found a pattern between a comment aimed at another character that is relevant to herself, allowing myself to explore the symmetry between characters and the relationship between them.

The conclusion is not just a regurgitation of what I've already said, but it brings together all my points to give a final overview summation of her role and Shakespeare's message through her. I always end with a personal reflection of what I have taken from the character or theme.

Duncan's guards. Her return of the daggers shifts her from being a mere inspiration for the murder, but now also an accomplice. She steps from the sphere of innocence and virtue associated with Jacobean women, and instead assists in the masculine domain of violence and pain. However, she is willing to compromise this dignity for the sake of her husband's ambition and his safety. It was a sacrifice driven by love and commitment: principles that Jacobean women would strive for. She questions his masculinity by referring to his "white" heart, alluding to an innocence and purity in him that a warrior future-king would baulk at. She may also be referring to the "white" of surrender, implying that he has given up and cannot see the deed through. Both messages push her way out of the submissive role a Jacobean woman would adopt, but instead make her the villainous drive that she always desired. Yet, we spy here the first hint of her inner weakness, for to "wear" is to cover up your true self and identity, thereby implying that this bravado and masculine-style comfort is merely a cover for the weaker soul within, driven by a desire to see the very best for her husband.

By the end of the play, that façade has fallen and Lady Macbeth reverts back to the weaker, fragile woman a Jacobean audience would come to expect. She pleads "Out damned spot!" repetitively, reflecting how like her pain and guilt, the spot will not go away. Her initial strength in her decision making has been replaced by a complete inability to control her mind, such is the damaging extent of her consequences. We also see how naïve her belief was she did not need to fear the supernatural but could embrace it in her life – for now the supernatural hallucinations are inhibiting the respect and dignity she once enjoyed as Queen, and it now marks her out as a broken, lost woman. To compound her loss, the husband for whom she compromised her morals and dignity for is now absent and no longer concerned by her plight (dismissing the Doctor to "cure her of that"). Therefore, this ambitious Jacobean woman, who had looked to break beyond the societal limitations of marriage, beliefs and mind-set, has been left broken and alone. The tragedy of this is that, like the "spot" her role in Macbeth's tyranny was only small, however the consequences are permanent and cannot be removed. She also recognises there are aspects of her that are "damned," and therefore destined to result in hell. Now that the supernatural has betrayed her and her husband, she reverts back to her Christian ideals of right and wrong – those same ideals that shaped a Jacobean society she had initially rejected. Shakespeare here shows that no matter the cause or the action of an individual, society will always prevail in dominance – a Jacobean woman can either accept it, or accept her place in hell.

To conclude, Lady Macbeth had called on Macbeth to "look the innocent flower but be the serpent under it," and in many respects this reflected her character: society demanded she fit to the Jacobean expectations of women, but beyond the façade was a woman 'serpent'-like in her comfort with evil and violence, and 'snake' like in her ease in betraying her King, country and her own morals and dignity. However, like the 'serpent,' of any story, her demise was inevitable and brutal for evil so rarely prevails.

Yet, despite her role in Duncan's death and her initial comfort with the malevolent and the supernatural, I believe Lady Macbeth's story is one of pity and sadness. Shakespeare created a character so desperate to break from her societal conventions - and her one motive for doing so was Macbeth. Be it for love, or a matching thirst for his ambition, she defied all that was expected of her to drive him to greater glory, and in doing so compromised on her dignity, marriage and her mental state. Her story is so sad, as no matter how noble her reasons and no matter the courage and strength of her character, her demise came from stepping beyond the role that society had dictated to her. Her determination to step from the expectations of a Jacobean woman, and her self-illusion that she was capable of doing so, ultimately led to her, her husband and Scotland's demise.

They wanted you to study it – so tell them what you got out of it (sensibly)!

Macbeth – Key Quotes

You should know all of these off by heart for your exam…

Key Quote	Basic Point	Higher Point
"Is this a dagger which I see before me?"	Macbeth hallucinates a dagger on his way to kill Duncan – he is loosing control of his mental awareness.	The 'dagger' symbolises the violence and evil within him. He is willing to use pain to achieve his ambition.
"Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood clean"	Macbeth feels so guilty about killing Duncan, he doesn't believe there's enough water to clean him of the deed.	Symmetry in the image of water: Lady Macbeth here dismisses Macbeth with "a little water clears us" – but by the end she is the one calling for more imaginary water to wash her hands clean of her crimes.
"Bear-like"	Macbeth fights really bravely in the final battle	Cyclical structure: Macbeth returns back to the brave warrior we knew at the start.
"Unsex me"	Lady Macbeth doesn't want to be a woman so she can be free if the innocence and purity expected of her gender.	She doesn't want to be a man either so she doesn't have to uphold honour – she's committing to evil. (And she's comfortable with the supernatural – asking the spirits to do it for her)
"Dash'd the brains out"	Lady Macbeth uses threats of violence and taunts of cowardice to bully Macbeth.	Lady Macbeth presents an image of not having the motherly, womanly instincts expected of the time.
"Out damned spot!	Lady Macbeth looses control of her mind; she can't cope with the guilt and shame.	The spot represents her actions; she played a small role in comparison, but it had permanent consequences.
"shame to wear a heart so white"	Lady Macbeth mocks the cowardice of Macbeth.	'White' implies there is a purity and innocence in Macbeth: he's a reluctant villain.
"Thunder, lightening or rain"	Pathetic fallacy of the witches meeting suggests mystery and evil.	A storm, like the witches, is a disturbance to the natural order. They want to disrupt society and the great chain of bing.

Key Quote	Basic Point	Higher Point
"Wish't they had stayed"	Macbeth believes he can control the supernatural – he is upset when the witches go.	He depends on them for guidance. They depend on him to use his ambition and their riddles to make carnage.
"Approach thou like the rugged Russian bear"	Macbeth wants Banquo's ghost to turn into something physical so he is no longer afraid of it.	Macbeth is trying to show he is masculine enough to not be afraid, but the power of the supernatural usurps the power of masculinity.
"His virtues will plead like angels"	Macbeth knows it's a bad thing to kill Duncan.	Duncan is associated with the virtue and glory of God & Heaven, whereas Macbeth's rule is characterised by the supernatural and evil. The King is the head of the Great Chain of Being, so deserves that comparison.
"Tears will drown"	Macbeth knows lots of people will be upset when Duncan dies.	Macbeth prioritises his own ambition over the harmony of the Great Chain of Being, and the success and happiness of the Scottish society.
"Fair is foul and foul is fair"	The witches think good is bad and bad is good. They live to cause chaos.	The witches speak in rhyme and not in iambic pentameter: they do not fit in with the structural expectations of the play, just as they don't fit in our world.
"Look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under it"	Lady Macbeth wants Macbeth to trick people before he kills the King.	Flower: Pure, innocent, attractive Serpent: snake (betrayal), dangerous, unpleasant.
"I dare do all that may become a man; who dares do more is none"	Macbeth is conscious his ruining his own perception of his character.	Macbeth, correctly, believe it is the more masculine thing to know when to be peaceful and righteous – Lady Macbeth disagrees.
"We shall proceed no further in this business"	Macbeth tries to assert his masculinity by telling Lady Macbeth they'll stop their plans to kill Duncan. He fails.	He calls it a 'business' – he's detached from the whole plan, he doesn't feel a true part of it. He doesn't want to be a villain.

Essay 1: Macbeth

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

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-oppressed 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' the 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 halfworld
Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse
The curtain'd sleep; witchcraft celebrates
Pale Hecate's offerings, and wither'd murder,
Alarum'd 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.
A bell rings
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.

Plan out your essay below by:

1) Summarising a conceptualised introduction in 1 or 2 sentences. What do you want to say on the topic?
2) Plot on the timeline the 4 quotes you're going to use.
3) Below each quote, briefly explain the relevance, and bring it back to Shakespeare's message.

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present the character of Macbeth?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare presents them in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents the witches in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Shakespeare's Message

Essay 2: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 1, Scene 1, and then answer the question that follows.

ACT I SCENE I. A deserted place.
Thunder and lightning. Enter three Witches
First Witch
When shall we three meet again
In thunder, lightning, or in rain?
Second Witch
When the hurlyburly's done,
When the battle's lost and won.
Third Witch
That will be ere the set of sun.
First Witch
Where the place?
Second Witch
Upon the heath.
Third Witch
There to meet with Macbeth.
First Witch
I come, Graymalkin!
Second Witch
Paddock calls.
Third Witch
Anon.
ALL
Fair is foul, and foul is fair:
Hover through the fog and filthy air.
Exeunt

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present the witches as evil and mysterious?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare presents them in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents the witches in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote

Shakespeare's Message

Essay 3: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act I, Scene V, and then answer the question that follows.

LADY MACBETH
Give him tending;
He brings great news.

Exit Messenger

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!'

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present Lady Macbeth as untraditional Jacobean woman?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Shakespeare's Message

Essay 4: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act I, Scene VII and then answer the question that follows.

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'ld 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 extract, how does Shakespeare present ambition as a strength and weakness?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare present the theme of ambition in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents the theme of ambition in the play

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Shakespeare's Message

Essay 5: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act I, Scene VII and then answer the question that follows.

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 afeard
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.

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare present the relationship in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents the relationship in the play

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Shakespeare's Message

Essay 6: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act V, Scene I and then answer the question that follows.

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, how does Shakespeare present guilt and shame?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare presents guilt and shame in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents guilt and shame in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Stevenson's Message

Essay 7: Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act III, Scene IV and then answer the question that follows.

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.
MACBETH
Prithee, see there! behold! look! lo!
how say you?
Why, what care I? If thou canst nod, speak too.
If charnel-houses and our graves must send
Those that we bury back, our monuments
Shall be the maws of kites.

Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present Macbeth's Kingship?

Write about:
- How Shakespeare presents Macbeth's Kingship in this extract
- How Shakespeare presents Macbeth's Kingship in the play

[30 marks]

Conceptualised view:

Point & Quote



Shakespeare's Message