

MACBETH KO

Vocabulary	Definition	Terminology	Definition
Retribution	Inflicting punishment for a wrongful act	Tragedy	Form of the play exploring tragic events & downfall of character
Patriarchy	Society dominated by males who rule over females	Dramatic Irony	where the audience are more aware of the action happening than the characters
Masculinity	Traits relating to being stereotypically male	Soliloquy	an individual character in a play speaking their thoughts out loud to the audience
Insanity	Being seriously mentally ill	Protagonists	The main character who propels the action forward
Loyalty	Having a strong feeling of support or allegiance	Imagery	Visual descriptions that allows the audience to understand an idea
Wisdom	Quality of having good judgement/ being wise	Oxymoron	using two opposing terms together, that normally contradict each other
Justice	Fair treatment or behaviour	Juxtaposition	Placing contrasting ideas close together in a text
Tyrannical	Exercising power in a cruel way	Foreshadowing	a hint or suggestion of what might happen later in the story
Hamartia	Fatal flaw leading to the downfall of the main character	Emotive Language	Language which creates an emotion in the reader
Malevolence	Being deliberately hostile to others	Connotations/ Zooming in	Implied or suggested meanings of a word or phrases
Maternal	Feelings which are related to being a mother	Hyperbole	use of extremely exaggerated terms for emphasis
Regicide	Killing the king or queen in charge, usually to take power for yourself		
Futile	Something that is seen as pointless		
Usurp	Take a position of power by force or wrongfully		

SKILLS (AO1, AO2 & AO4)

Analysis using PEAZ:
Point: A clear analytical point which shows insight and clearly answers the question
Evidence: Support with a short quote(s) or example from the text.
Analysis: Make explicit where the quote is from then explain the meaning and effect of the quote(s) you use – both explicit and implicit. Aim for two interpretations per quote.
Zoom in on Language: Zoom in on a specific language choice (use subject terminology) and explore its connotations and effect on the audience. Consider whether Elizabethan audience would react differently to a contemporary audience.
Refer to the writer: Evaluate Shakespeare’s motive and how it supports his intended purpose for the play

EXAM REQUIREMENTS - English Literature - Component 1, Section A

EXTRACT ESSAY on MACBETH – 20 mins - 15 marks

Intro – link to question. Provide an overview of the scene.
Throughout the essay – Choose relevant quotes and analyse the language, structure and effect of these quotes. Refer to the question regularly.

WHOLE PLAY ESSAY on MACBETH – 40 mins - 25 marks (5 for SPaG)

Prioritise your ideas in chronological order.

Intro – using words of the question give an overview that shows insight.
PEAZ 1 - choose a moment from the play to explore with quotes & context
PEAZ 2- choose a 2nd moment from the play to explore with quotes & context
PEAZ 3 - choose a moment from the play to explore with quotes & context
PEAZ 4 – choose a moment to explore with quotes and context
Conclude – Short summary of key insights linked to the question and writer. 2-3 sentences max.

	Themes
Ambition	The play shows that ambition is dangerous because it can go out of control. Macbeth’s ambition leads him to kill King Duncan and Banquo. Lady Macbeth’s ambitions leads to her insanity later on in the play. It can be good, such as Banquo’s ambition for his sons to be king because he does not act violently on this like Macbeth does.
Loyalty and Betrayal	Loyalty is rewarded in the play and betrayal is punished. Macbeth is loyal to King Duncan and is rewarded with the new title of Thane of Cawdor. Later on, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth pretend to be loyal in order to betray King Duncan.
Kingship	A good king should be calm, humble, loyal and believe in fair justice much like King Duncan. A bad king is one who is selfish, greedy, a liar and violent most of the time, much like Macbeth. Kings should also be chosen by God under Divine Right.
Reality and Appearance	The play deals with the ideas of appearances being deceptive. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth hide their true thoughts when killing King Duncan. The Witches words are deliberately unclear creating uncertainty in the play. King Duncan trusts appearances too much, but Banquo and Malcom are sceptical.
Fate and Free Will	Do we have total control over our future, or are things already planned for us? Macbeth deals with this question when the Witches prophesise him becoming king. Macbeth uses his free will to make his fate come true. Banquo, on the other hand , would rather fate take its own course.
Supernatural	The supernatural deals with powers that cannot be explained normally with ideas of magic. The Witches are an evil supernatural force and bring chaos to the play, creating an unnatural order.

Act	Key Moments
1	Scene 1: The witches meet up and set the tone of evil throughout the plot. Scene 2: King Duncan hears reports that Macbeth and Banquo have helped win the war. Scene 3: Macbeth and Banquo meet the witches on a heath and hear predictions that Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor and King, and Banquo won’t be king but his sons will be kings. Scene 4: King Duncan meets Macbeth and Banquo and rewards them. Macbeth is now Thane of Cawdor and secretly starts to think he could be king. Scene 5: Lady Macbeth has received a letter from Macbeth about the witches. She starts to think how to persuade Macbeth to kill King Duncan. Scene 6: Duncan arrives at Macbeth’s home. Scene 7: Macbeth convinces himself not to kill King Duncan. Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth again to kill King Duncan.
2	Scene 1: Macbeth murders King Duncan, committing regicide. Scene 2: Macbeth loses his nerve after killing King Duncan, so Lady Macbeth has to help frame the guards and clean up after Macbeth. Macbeth regrets what he has done. Scene 3: Macbeth sends Macduff to find King Duncan dead. The guards are blamed and Malcolm and Donalbain run away as they might be suspected of killing their father to get the throne. Scene 4: Ross and Macduff think the guards were paid by Malcolm and Donalbain to kill the king for their own gain. Macbeth becomes king.
3	Scene 1: Banquo thinks to himself that Macbeth has done something wrong to become king. Macbeth hires murderers to kill Banquo and Fleance to stop Banquo’s prophecy coming true. Scene 2: Macbeth tells Lady Macbeth that Banquo now needs to be killed. Lady Macbeth wants to convince him otherwise, but now Macbeth keeps his evil plans to himself, no longer trusting her. Scene 3: Banquo is killed by the murderers. Fleance escapes. Scene 4: Macbeth is holding a large meal in honour of him being new king. The murderers tell him Banquo is dead but Fleance escaped. Macbeth then sees Banquo’s ghost at the meal when no one else can. Lady Macbeth sends him to bed so he doesn’t say anything to make him seem guilty. Scene 5: The three witches meet again discussing Macbeth. Scene 6: Lennox, Malcolm and Macduff all suspect Macbeth to be evil, calling him a tyrant. Malcolm and Macduff are making plans in England.
4	Scene 1: Macbeth sees the witches again who tell him these things: Beware Macduff, beware the Thane of Fife, None of woman born can harm Macbeth, Macbeth shall never be beaten until Birnam Woods moves towards the castle Scene 2: Macbeth has Macduff’s wife and children killed. Scene 3: Malcolm and Macduff plan on killing Macbeth. Macduff hears his wife and child are dead and vows vengeance.
5	Scene 1: Lady Macbeth is sleepwalking, feeling guilty about killing King Duncan. Scene 2: An army is approaching Macbeth’s castle. Scene 3: A doctor tells Macbeth that Lady Macbeth is getting worse. Scene 4: Macbeth’s army have left him. Birnam wood is moving as soldiers have cut branches down to use as disguise. Scene 5: Lady Macbeth kills herself. Macbeth finds out the wood is moving. Scene 6: The soldiers have arrived at Macbeth’s castle ready to fight. Scene 7: Macduff and Macbeth fight. Macduff reveals he was not born of a woman but by caesarean birth. Macduff kills Macbeth. Malcolm is now king.

Characters	Characteristics	Quotes	Context
Macbeth	<p>Ambitious soldier who becomes king after killing King Duncan. Easily persuaded and a tyrant.</p> <p><i>Hero, covetous, devious, villainous, murderer</i></p>	<p>“For brave Macbeth—well he deserves that name—” Act 1:2 – Macbeth is being described as brave by King Duncan’s Sergeant, as he has just fought off the Norwegian army for Scotland.</p> <p>“Stars, hide your fires; Let not light see my black and deep desires:” Act 1:4 - Macbeth has found out that he has been promoted and is now thinking to himself about what evil idea he can have to become king. This will involve killing King Duncan.</p> <p>“Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood clean from my hand? ” Act 2:2 - Macbeth feels guilty for killing King Duncan. He regrets his actions in this part of the play.</p> <p>“We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it ” Act 3:2 – Macbeth now knows he has to kill Banquo and Fleance, so that Banquo’s children will not become kings. Macbeth has now become more cruel and villainous as the play goes on</p> <p>“And all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!” Act 5:5 – Macbeth’s wife has died, Malcolm and Macduff’s army are coming in so he has lost hope. He sees the futility of life.</p>	<p>Patriarchy - Women not as important as men Jacobean men held women responsible for the original sin (Adam & Eve)</p>
	<p>Ambitious at the start of the play for her husband – Macbeth – but later becomes paranoid and loses her mind.</p> <p><i>Manipulative, ambitious, guilt-ridden, covetous, insane</i></p>	<p>“yet do I fear thy nature; it is too full o' the milk of human kindness” Act 1:5 – Lady Macbeth understands her husband might not take his opportunity to become king as he can be too kind.</p> <p>“look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under't.” Act 1:6 – Lady Macbeth is giving advice to Macbeth to look normal, but keep his evil ambitions in his heart in order to kill King Duncan and take the crown.</p> <p>“But screw your courage to the sticking-place,” – Act 1:7 – Lady Macbeth is making sure Macbeth sticks with the plan of killing King Duncan, and for him to hold his nerve even though he is nervous.</p> <p>“Out, damned spot! out, I say!” – Act 5:1 Lady Macbeth feels guilt-ridden later on in the play compared to her early cold-hearted nature. In her mind, she cannot get of King Duncan’s blood on her hands showing signs of her deep seated guilt.</p> <p>“all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand”- Act 5:1 – Much like Macbeth who asks for all of the oceans to wash his hands, Lady Macbeth cannot get the smell of blood off her hands and knows no escape from her guilt for her past actions.</p>	
The Witches	<p>Supernatural creatures who cause chaos to the order of things in the play. Often seen as evil.</p> <p><i>Manipulative, prophetic, sinister, amoral, heinous</i></p>	<p>“When shall we three meet again in thunder, lightning, or in rain?” – Act 1:1 The weather the Witches describe at the beginning of the play sets up the mood and atmosphere of the play as one of being dark and sinister. The audience immediately begin to mistrust the Witches in the play.</p> <p>“Fair is foul, and foul is fair” – Act 1:1– The Witches want to see the change in order. Bad things will be seen as rewarding and good things will bring disaster, for example, Macbeth will become king due to his treachery, but King Duncan will be killed due to his trusting nature. This quotation foreshadows events in the play and displays the Witches evil nature.</p> <p>“All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter!” – Act 1:3 – The Witches prophesise Macbeth becoming king later on in the play. They can be seen as causing trouble as this is the first time Macbeth has thought about being king. Before, he has been content to be a war hero and lord in Scotland.</p> <p>“Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none” – Act 1:3 – They also predict that Banquo’s children will be kings. When looking at Banquo’s reaction, there is a contrast between him and Macbeth; Macbeth chooses to believe the Witches whereas Banquo is more sceptical. This is also interesting as King James 1, the ruler when Shakespeare was writing this, did have an ancestor called Banquo.</p> <p>“for none of woman born shall harm Macbeth.” – Act 4 :1 – It is predicted that Macbeth cannot be killed by anyone who is born from a woman, a prophecy that is later tested in the play when Macduff reveals he was born by caesarean birth. This highlights how Macbeth should not have trusted the Witches deceiving nature in the first place.</p>	<p>Treason – Gunpowder Plot</p>
	<p>A highly respected and loved king, King Duncan is seen as a good and just king. His trusting nature is his downfall, as Macbeth kills him.</p> <p><i>Honourable, regal, revered, trusting, fair</i></p>	<p>“O valiant cousin! worthy gentleman!” – Act 1:1 King Duncan is praising Macbeth’s bravery at the start of the play and using very respectful knowledge towards him, revealing how much he looks after and respects his loyal subjects.</p> <p>“The sin of my ingratitude even now was heavy on me” – Act 1:4 – King Duncan is upset with himself as he thinks he has not rewarded Macbeth quickly enough, showing his kind and generous nature.</p> <p>“I have begun to plant thee, and will labour to make thee full of growing” – Act 1:4 – King Duncan is regal as he is using his power fairly to reward Banquo and Macbeth.</p> <p>“But signs of nobleness like stars shall shine on all deservers.” – Act 1:4 – Duncan will reward those who were loyal and did well in the war, revealing his sense of honour and respect to others.</p> <p>“his virtues will plead like angels” – Act 1:7 – Macbeth is having second thoughts about killing King Duncan as King Duncan is seen as so honourable that will go to heaven when he dies.</p>	<p>Religion – The catholic/ protestant divide and suspicion this caused</p>
Banquo	<p>Loyal friend to Macbeth, Banquo is not as trusting of the Witches. His loyalty to Macbeth is his downfall as Macbeth has him killed to stop the other prophecy given by the Witches.</p> <p><i>Skeptical, honourable, loyal, perceptive</i></p>	<p>“You should be women, and yet your beards forbid me to interpret that you are so” – Act 1 3 – Banquo is sceptical about the Witches’ appearance as he thinks they look more like men than women. He immediately shows a sense of mistrust towards them.</p> <p>“Are ye fantastical, or that indeed which outwardly ye show?” – Act 1:3 – Banquo is sceptical, questioning if the Witches are illusions that he is seeing. Compare this to Macbeth who is far too trusting of what the Witches say.</p> <p>“I fear, thou played'st most foully for't” – Act 3:1 – Banquo is sceptical about Macbeth becoming king, suspecting wrong doing. Perhaps he is thinking that Macbeth has murdered King Duncan.</p> <p>“which my duties are with a most indissoluble tie forever knit.” – Act 3:1 – Banquo will obey the orders from his new king Macbeth to show his loyalty, even though he mistrusts how Macbeth became king in the first place.</p> <p>“It is concluded. Banquo, thy soul's flight, if it find heaven, must find it out to-night.” – Act 3:1 – Macbeth has decided he will kill Banquo to prevent Banquo’s children from becoming kings.</p>	<p>The Code of Chivalry – a moral conduct that included behaviour towards women and went beyond the battlefield</p>