

1. In a tragedy, the first scene in Act I is often included for the purpose of setting the *tone* or *atmosphere* for the audience to prepare for what's to come. a. What do you think is the *tone* of Act I, scene i?

2. What are some words or phrases that lead you to your answer?

3. In scene ii King Duncan learns that his captain, Macbeth, has defeated two rebels (lines 9-23 and 49-57). Who are the rebels?

4. a. What are the very first words Macbeth says on stage (scene iii, line 38)? _____

b. What does he mean by these words? What has been "fair"? _____, and what has been "foul"? _____

c. What do you notice about these words and why are they significant? _____

5. In scene iii, after greeting Macbeth as Thane of Glamis, what two prophecies do the witches make (lines 49-50)?

a. _____; b. _____

6. What three prophecies do the witches give in scene iii (lines 65-68)?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

7. Upon learning that the witches spoke true about one prophecy, Macbeth contemplates the other one. What feelings does he have at this point about the idea of murdering Duncan (lines 135 - 137)?

8. Throughout the rest of Act I, Macbeth struggles with the question of whether or not he should murder Duncan. Read each set of lines below. If the lines indicate that Macbeth will go through with the murder, write *YES* in the blank. If the lines indicate that Macbeth will not murder Duncan, write *NO*.

a. scene iii, lines 143-144 _____

d. scene vii, lines 7-10 _____

b. scene iv, lines 48-53 _____

e. scene vii, lines 12-28 _____

c. scene vii, lines 1-7 _____

f. scene vii, lines 31-35 _____

8. In scene v, lines 14-20, what fears does Lady Macbeth express about Macbeth's character?

9. In scene v, lines 36-52, Lady Macbeth calls upon the spirits to "unsex me here," or to remove her feminine traits. a. What feminine traits does she wish to get rid of and why?

b. What masculine traits does she want instead and why? _____

10. Macbeth complained that he had "no spur to prick the sides of [his] intent." Lady Macbeth acts as that spur. What plan for Duncan's murder do the two hatch (scene 7, lines 61-77)?

11. What is Macbeth's final decision about murdering Duncan (scene vii, lines 79-80)?

12. Think of a title for Act I: _____

13. Look up the word "aside" in your notes. Locate one aside in Act I and write it here:

ACT I Line Quiz

1. "Fair is foul, and foul is fair."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. What theme does it represent?

2. "So foul and fair a day I have not seen."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. Why *ironic*?

3. "Lesser than Macbeth, and greater."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. To whom?
 - c. Meaning?

4. "„,But 'tis strange:
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,
Win us with honet trifles, to betray 's
In deepest consequence."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. To whom?
 - c. How does this speech show the speaker a *dramatic foil* to Macbeth?

5. "...Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,
Against the use of nature?"
 - a. Who said?
 - c. What "horrid image"?

4. "There's no art
To find the mind's construction in the face."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. About whom?
 - c. Meaning?

5. "...That is a step
On which I must fall down, or else o'leap,
For in my way it lies;"
 - a. Who said?
 - c. Meaning?

6. "...Yet do I fear thy nature;
It is too full o' th'milk of human kindness
To catch the nearest way."
 - a. Who said?
 - b. About whom?
 - c. Meaning?

7. “...unsex me here,
And fill me, from the crown to the toe, top full
Of direst cruelty!” a. Who said?
b. Meaning?
8. “...To beguile the time,
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye.” a. Who said?
b. To whom? c. Reflection of what theme?
9. “This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air
Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself
Unto our gentle senses.” a. Who said?
b. Why *ironic*?
10. “If it were done when ‘tis done, then ‘twere well
It were done quickly.” a. Who said?
b. Meaning?
11. “...He’s here in double trust: “ a. Who is “he”?
b. What three “trusts” are mentioned in the subsequent lines?
12. “But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we’ll not fail.” a. Who said?
b. To whom?
13. “...I am settled, and bend up,
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.” a. Who said?
b. What “terrible feat”?

DIRECTED NOTE-TAKING

ACT I, scene i

I This scene opens with three _____, who's chanted conversation is full of

CONTRADICTIONS. Examples are:

A.

B.

II This scene is all about ATMOSPHERE.

A. The TONE established here is _____

B. The PURPOSE of I,i seems to be to _____

1. The lines which best exemplify this purpose are " _____
_____ "

2. These lines mean _____

ACT I, scene ii

I This scene takes place _____, where King Duncan and
his commanders discuss _____

A. Two traitors to King Duncan are _____ and
_____.

1. _____ dies when Macbeth "... unseamed him
from nave to chops, and

2. _____ is captured and put to death for treason.

B. The heroes of the day are _____ and _____,
two of King Duncan's commanders.

C. EVIDENCE that Macbeth is regarded as a hero are:

1. _____

2. _____

D. King Duncan rewards Macbeth by _____

II Here are some things to think about from scene ii:

A. Write I,ii,67 here: _____.

B. Now, write a line from I,i that this line brings to mind: _____
_____.

C. Now, why, again, does Shakespeare go to all this trouble to make it clear that Macbeth's a hero? _____

Act I, scene iii

I If you're an Elizabethan playgoer and you hear THUNDER, what do you expect? _____

II The witches are discussing _____

A. Their conversation reinforces the popularly held belief that witches are _____

B. What important fact do we learn about the POWER of these witches? _____

III The very first words spoken by Macbeth (I,iii,38) are: " _____

_____."

A. Macbeth means that it's a fair day because _____,

and it's foul because _____.

B. These words IRONIC because _____

IV Banquo asks Macbeth why he "...start[s] and seem to fear..." Macbeth looks that way because _____

V Two prophecies the witches make to Macbeth are:

A _____

B _____

1. The one that's ALREADY come true, but Macbeth doesn't know it is _____

2. The way it's come true is _____

VI Three prophecies the witches make to Banquo are:

A. _____, meaning _____

B. _____, meaning _____

C. _____, meaning _____

VII An *ASIDE* is _____

A. In Macbeth's *aside*

VIII Macbeth and Banquo react differently to the prophecies:

A. Macbeth _____

B. Banquo _____

1. A *DRAMATIC FOIL* is _____

Act I, scene iv

I In this scene, the king's words in lines 11-14 are IRONIC because _____

II In addition to the reward King Duncan has given Macbeth, he further honors Macbeth and shows his trust in him by announcing that he will _____

III Duncan's announcement that he is naming Malcolm Prince of Cumberland is a "stumbling block" to Macbeth because _____

DIRECTED NOTE-TAKING

ACT I, scene 5

I Lady Macbeth reads Macbeth's letter and receives word that Duncan will visit

A. EVIDENCE of their close relationship: _____

B. LADY Macbeth's reaction:

1. "Yet I do fear..." _____

2. Her reaction: "...Unsex me here..."

Theme: Appearance vs Reality _____

<<< bird imagery _____

C. LADY Macbeth's advice to Macbeth _____

Theme: Appearance vs. Reality

ACT I, scene 6

I CONTRAST : *Theme: Appearance vs Reality*

A. Duncan's response to the castle Inverness _____

B. The truth about Inverness _____

<<<bird imagery _____

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ACT I, scene 7

I Macbeth's mind set at the beginning of this scene

"If it were done..." _____

II Macbeth's reasons for NOT killing Duncan:

A. _____

Theme: Violence begets Violence

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

III Lady Macbeth's winning argument

A. The "spur" _____

B. Why it works _____

IV The Plan

A. Lady M.'s plan _____

B. Macbeth's reaction _____