
Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 2 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth has arranged the killing of Banquo and is reflecting on the killing of Duncan.

MACBETH

We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it:
She'll close and be herself, whilst our poor malice
Remains in danger of her former tooth.
But let the frame of things disjoint, both the
worlds suffer,
Ere we will eat our meal in fear and sleep
In the affliction of these terrible dreams
That shake us nightly: better be with the dead,
Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace,
Than on the torture of the mind to lie
In restless ecstasy. Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst: nor steel, nor poison,
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing,
Can touch him further.

LADY MACBETH

Come on;
Gentle my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

MACBETH

So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you:
Let your remembrance apply to Banquo;
Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue:
Unsafe the while, that we
Must lave our honours in these flattering streams,
And make our faces vizards to our hearts,
Disguising what they are.

LADY MACBETH

You must leave this.

Starting with this extract, explain how you think Shakespeare presents deceitfulness.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents deception in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents deceit in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

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

At this point in the play Macbeth is arranging to have Banquo killed.

MACBETH

Bring them before us.

Exit Attendant

To be thus is nothing;
But to be safely thus.--Our fears in Banquo
Stick deep; and in his royalty of nature
Reigns that which would be fear'd: 'tis much he dares;
And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
To act in safety. There is none but he
Whose being I do fear: and, under him,
My Genius is rebuked; as, it is said,
Mark Antony's was by Caesar. He chid the sisters
When first they put the name of king upon me,
And bade them speak to him: then prophet-like
They hail'd him father to a line of kings:
Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,
And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,
Thence to be wrench'd with an unlineal hand,
No son of mine succeeding. If 't be so,
For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;
For them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd;
Put rancours in the vessel of my peace
Only for them; and mine eternal jewel
Given to the common enemy of man,
To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!
Rather than so, come fate into the list.
And champion me to the utterance! Who's there!

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents confusion and difficult decisions.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents confusion and difficult decisions in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents difficult decisions or confusion in the rest of the play.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 2 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Duncan's sons are considering what they should do to be safe after the death of their father, the king..

Exeunt all but Malcolm and Donalbain.

MALCOLM

What will you do? Let's not consort with them:

To show an unfelt sorrow is an office

Which the false man does easy. I'll to England.

DONALBAIN

To Ireland, I; our separated fortune

Shall keep us both the safer: where we are,

There's daggers in men's smiles: the near in blood,

The nearer bloody.

MALCOLM

This murderous shaft that's shot

Hath not yet lighted, and our safest way

Is to avoid the aim. Therefore, to horse;

And let us not be dainty of leave-taking,

But shift away: there's warrant in that theft

Which steals itself, when there's no mercy left.

Exeunt

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents fear.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents fear in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents fear in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 4 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Malcolm and Macduff have not yet heard that Macbeth has killed Macduff's family. They are discussing Macbeth. Malcolm acknowledges that Macduff has good intentions.

MALCOLM

Macduff, this noble passion,
Child of integrity, hath from my soul
Wiped the black scruples, reconciled my thoughts
To thy good truth and honour. Devilish Macbeth
By many of these trains hath sought to win me
Into his power, and modest wisdom plucks me
From over-credulous haste: but God above
Deal between thee and me! for even now
I put myself to thy direction, and
Unspeak mine own detraction, here abjure
The taints and blames I laid upon myself,
For strangers to my nature. I am yet
Unknown to woman, never was forsworn,
Scarcely have coveted what was mine own,
At no time broke my faith, would not betray
The devil to his fellow and delight
No less in truth than life: my first false speaking
Was this upon myself: what I am truly,
Is thine and my poor country's to command:
Whither indeed, before thy here-approach,
Old Siward, with ten thousand warlike men,
Already at a point, was setting forth.
Now we'll together; and the chance of goodness
Be like our warranted quarrel! Why are you silent?

MACDUFF

Such welcome and unwelcome things at once
'Tis hard to reconcile.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents good and evil.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents the goodness of Malcolm and Macduff in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents good and evil in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 5 Scene 1 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Lady Macbeth is sleepwalking, being observed by her Doctor..

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!

Doctor

What a sigh is there! The heart is sorely charged.

LADY MACBETH

Wash your hands, put on your nightgown; look not so
pale.--I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he
cannot come out on's grave.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as weak.

Write about:

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

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

Read the following extract from the end of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth is about to be killed by Macduff.

MACDUFF

Despair thy charm;
And let the angel whom thou still hast served
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb
Untimely ripp'd.

MACBETH

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

MACDUFF

Then yield thee, coward,
And live to be the show and gaze o' the time:
We'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,
Painted on a pole, and underwrit,
'Here may you see the tyrant.'

MACBETH

I will not yield,
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,
And thou opposed, being of no woman born,
Yet I will try the last. Before my body
I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff,
And damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

Starting with this extract, explain how bravery is presented

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Macduff in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents bravery/ brave characters in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]

Section A: Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

Macbeth

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

At this point in the play the witches have met and are now ready to meet Macbeth and deliver his predictions.

ALL (3witches chant)

The weird sisters, hand in hand,
Posters of the sea and land,
Thus do go about, about:
Thrice to thine and thrice to mine
And thrice again, to make up nine.
Peace! the charm's wound up.

Enter MACBETH and BANQUO

MACBETH

So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

BANQUO

How far is't call'd to Forres? What are these
So wither'd and so wild in their attire,
That look not like the inhabitants o' the earth,
And yet are on't? Live you? or are you aught
That man may question? You seem to understand me,
By each at once her chappy finger laying
Upon her skinny lips: you should be women,
And yet your beards forbid me to interpret
That you are so.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents the witches.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents the witches in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents the witches and/or other smaller characters in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]