***Macbeth* Test Study Guide**

What is dramatic irony?

Was Macbeth a real life person?

What is an aside?

What is a paradox?

What was Macbeth the Thane of? How did he get those titles?

Who all did Macbeth kill? What are the circumstances of the first murder?

Who killed Macbeth?

How did Lady Macbeth characterize her husband?

Why did Malcolm and Donalbain go to different countries? Where did they go?

What happened to Fleance?

What kind of play is *Macbeth*?

How did Lady Macbeth die? What was she like at the end?

What all did Macbeth hallucinate? Why did he hallucinate them?

What prophecy was given to Banquo?

What prophecies were given to Macbeth?

What was Shakespeare’s inspiration for the play?

**Quotes** – Find the speaker and context.

Fair is foul, and foul is fair:

Hover through the fog and filthy air.

(Act One Scene One)

Thou hast it now: King, Cawdor, Glamis, all as the weird women promised; and I fear thou plays’t most foully for it.

(Act Three Scene One)

Unnatural deeds do breed unnatural troubles.

(Act 5 Scene One)

Come we’ll to sleep. My strange and self abuse is the initiate fear that wants hard use; we are but young in deed.

(Act 3 Scene 4)

It will have blood they say; blood will have blood.

(Act 3 Scene 3)

Despair thy charm; and let the angel whom thou hast served tell thee, Macduff was from his mother’s womb untimely ripped.

(Act 5 Scene 8)

I have no spur to prick the sides of my intent, but only vaulting ambition.

(Act 1 Scene 7)

What’s done is done.

(Act 3 Scene 1)

I shall do so, but first I must also feel it as a man.

(Act 4 Scene 3)

She should have died hereafter;

There would have been a time for such a word.

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,

Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,

To the last syllable of recorded time;

And all our yesterdays have lighted fools

The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!

Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets his hour upon the stage

And then is heard no more. It is a tale

Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury

Signifying nothing.

(Act 5 Scene 6)

Yet do I fear thy nature; it is too full of the milk of human kindness to catch the nearest way.

(Act One Scene Five)

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.

(Act One Scene 7)

Had I but died an hour before this chance

I had liv’d a blessed time; for, from this instant,

There’s nothing serious in mortality,

(Act Two Scene Three)

The thane of Fife has 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.

(Act Five Scene One)

**Characters:** Write down what you know about the following characters.

1. Duncan
2. Malcolm
3. Donalbain
4. Macbeth
5. Banquo
6. Macduff
7. Lennox
8. Ross
9. Menteith
10. Angus
11. Caithness
12. Fleance
13. Siward
14. Young Siward
15. Seyton
16. Lady Macbeth
17. Lady Macduff
18. Hecate
19. Witches
20. Cawdor

**Written (30 marks)**

Choose **one** of the following questions and answer on lined paper. Please double space.

Essay Question:

* 1. The fantastical and grotesque witches are among the most memorable figures in the play. How does Shakespeare characterize the witches? What is their thematic significance?
  2. Compare and contrast Macbeth, Macduff, and Banquo. How are they alike? How are they different? Is it possible to argue that Macbeth is the play’s villain and Macduff or Banquo its hero, or is the matter more complicated than that?
  3. Discuss the role that blood plays in *Macbeth,* particularly immediately following Duncan’s murder and late in the play. What does it symbolize for Macbeth and his wife?
  4. Discuss Macbeth’s visions and hallucinations. What role do they play in the development of his character?
  5. Is *Macbeth* a moral play? Is justice served at the end of the play? Defend your answer.
  6. Discuss Shakespeare’s use of the technique of elision (omission), in which certain key events take place offstage. Why do you think he uses this technique?