

Name:

Date:

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DIRECTIONS: On a separate piece of paper rewrite these questions and answer each of them in two or three sentences. Once you are finished attach **this page only** to the front and hand your work in for marking. Each question is worth 2 marks.

ACT I

1. Macbeth is first presented to us as a brave and honoured soldier. Why is this important?
2. Macbeth and Banquo react differently to the witches' prophecies. Why? How will this affect the play?
3. What does Lady Macbeth read in the letter from her husband?
4. There is something Lady Macbeth fears about her husband. What is it?
5. Who is more frightened by the plan to kill Duncan: Macbeth, or his wife? Support your opinion with evidence from the play.
6. How does Lady Macbeth bolster her husband's courage and resolve to kill Duncan? What arguments does she use?

ACT II

7. How do Banquo and Macbeth regard each other at the beginning of the Act?
8. After the "dagger speech," is Macbeth becoming more or less determined than he seemed in Act I?
9. How is the sense of horror heightened at the beginning of Scene II?
10. When the porter knocks, what dramatic effect does this have?
11. Why did Macbeth kill the grooms? Was it a wise move? Is he thinking clearly at this point?
12. What would likely have happened to Duncan's sons if they hadn't fled?

ACT III

13. Why does Macbeth want Banquo killed?

14. What reasons does Macbeth give to the murderers for killing Banquo? What does this conversation reveal about Macbeth?
15. What is happening to Macbeth's sense of morality?
16. Many consider Scene IV the climax or turning point in the play. Do you agree? Why or why not?
17. When Banquo's ghost appears, what dramatic purpose does this serve?
18. Compare the reaction of Lady Macbeth and her husband to the appearance of Banquo's ghost.

ACT IV

19. In what ways does Shakespeare create a feeling of horror and impending doom at the beginning of this Act?
20. What are the three new prophecies made to Macbeth by the witches?
21. Which of the three new prophecies seems the most immediately dangerous?
22. How are Macbeth's morals affected by the witches' predictions?
23. Why did Macbeth deliberately search out the witches? How does he take the answer he gets?
24. How does the murder of Macduff's family differ from that of Banquo?
25. Malcolm misrepresents his own character to Macduff. Why?

ACT V

26. How does Shakespeare show that Lady Macbeth has been brooding over past crimes? What is she obsessing about?
27. How does Shakespeare foreshadow Lady Macbeth's death?
28. What is Macbeth's reaction to the death of his wife?
29. What dramatic purpose is there in having eight short scenes in the last act?
30. How is each of the prophecies the witches made revealed?