

MACBETH · ACT 1

Act 1 check

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____ Score / 9

Circle the letter of the best answer. Answer the last question in two or three sentences, with one detail from the text. Work without the book unless your teacher says otherwise.

1. According to the wounded Captain, what did Macbeth do to the rebel Macdonwald?
 - A Captured him and sent him to Duncan for trial
 - B Drove him back by sea to the Western Isles
 - C Split him open and set his head on the battlements
 - D Wounded him and let him flee to the Norwegian camp
2. What do the witches promise Banquo on the heath?
 - A He will be king after Macbeth's death
 - B His children will be kings, though he will not
 - C He will become Thane of Cawdor in Macbeth's place
 - D He will die before the sun sets that day
3. Speaking of the executed Thane of Cawdor, Duncan says, "There's no art to find the mind's construction in the face." Why is this line ironic as Macbeth enters right after it?
 - A Duncan is about to trust another man whose looks hide treacherous thoughts
 - B Duncan has already guessed that Macbeth wants the crown
 - C Cawdor actually died without confessing any of his crimes
 - D Macbeth has come to plead for Cawdor's life and title
4. Why does Duncan's naming Malcolm the Prince of Cumberland disturb Macbeth?
 - A Macbeth hoped Duncan would name Banquo instead
 - B It means Macbeth must leave court to rule Cumberland
 - C Malcolm insulted Macbeth when he received the title
 - D It places an heir between Macbeth and the crown
5. After reading her husband's letter, what does Lady Macbeth fear about his nature?
 - A He lacks any real ambition to become king
 - B He is ambitious but shrinks from wicked means
 - C He will tell Banquo about the prophecy first
 - D He is too reckless to wait for the right moment
6. Alone, Macbeth says, "I have no spur To prick the sides of my intent, but only Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself And falls on th' other." What does this riding image suggest?
 - A His courage in battle will carry him through the deed
 - B His loyalty to Duncan is urging him to act quickly
 - C Ambition is his only motive, and it may overreach and fall
 - D He plans to escape Inverness on horseback afterward

7. How does Lady Macbeth plan to deal with Duncan's two chamberlains?
- A Pay them to leave the king's door unguarded
 - B Send them away on an errand before midnight
 - C Lock them in a distant room for the night
 - D Make them drunk so they can bear the blame
8. Reread Lady Macbeth's line below. How does she use the idea of being "a man" to push Macbeth toward the murder? Support your answer with one detail from Scene 7.

"When you durst do it, then you were a man"

MACBETH · ACT 2

Act 2 check

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Circle the letter of the best answer. Answer the last question in two or three sentences, with one detail from the text. Work without the book unless your teacher says otherwise.

1. Late at night, what does Banquo say Duncan has sent to Lady Macbeth?
 - A A diamond, greeting her as a most kind hostess
 - B A gold chain, thanking her for the evening's feast
 - C A letter inviting her to his court at Forres
 - D A ring, offered as a sign of his trust in Macbeth
2. When Macbeth hints that supporting him later will bring Banquo honor, what does Banquo's reply reveal?
 - A He is eager to join in whatever Macbeth is planning
 - B He suspects Macbeth and threatens to warn the king
 - C He will listen only if his loyalty to the king stays clear
 - D He wants Macbeth to stop thinking about the witches
3. Waiting for her husband, Lady Macbeth says, "Had he not resembled My father as he slept, I had done't." What does this admission reveal?
 - A She had planned all along to let Macbeth take the blame
 - B She could not bring herself to kill Duncan with her own hands
 - C She expects Duncan's sons to suspect her first
 - D She had never seen Duncan before he came to Inverness
4. What does Macbeth carry out of Duncan's chamber by mistake?
 - A The king's crown, hidden under his cloak
 - B The torch that lit the king's chamber
 - C The diamond Duncan had meant for his wife
 - D The daggers that were meant to stay with the grooms
5. After returning the daggers, Lady Macbeth says, "A little water clears us of this deed." How does this line contrast with Macbeth's words just before she re-enters?
 - A She thinks the guilt washes off easily; he thinks an ocean could not clean it
 - B She fears being caught; he feels calm and ready to greet the guests
 - C She regrets the murder; he boasts that everything went as planned
 - D She wants to flee the castle; he insists that they stay and act innocent
6. Who discovers that Duncan has been murdered?
 - A Lennox, who had stayed awake through the stormy night
 - B Banquo, who goes to wake the king at dawn
 - C Macduff, who was told to call early on the king
 - D Malcolm, who was the first of the house to rise

7. Why do Malcolm and Donalbain decide to leave Scotland?
- A They believe Macduff has turned the thanes against them
 - B They fear the killer may strike them and cannot tell who is false
 - C They plan to raise armies abroad and seize the throne at once
 - D They are ashamed that their father's own grooms betrayed him
8. Reread the Old Man's report below. What does this event in nature suggest about Duncan's murder? Support your answer with one other detail from Scene 4.

“A falcon, towering in her pride of place, Was by a mousing owl hawk'd at and kill'd.”

MACBETH · ACT 3

Act 3 check

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Circle the letter of the best answer. Answer the last question in two or three sentences, with one detail from the text. Work without the book unless your teacher says otherwise.

1. Before Banquo rides out for the afternoon, which question does Macbeth ask him?
 - A Whether Fleance is going with him
 - B Whether he has heard from Macduff in Fife
 - C Whether he still dreams of the Weird Sisters
 - D Whether he will escort the queen to supper
2. In his soliloquy, what reason does Macbeth give for fearing Banquo above all other men?
 - A Banquo has openly accused him of Duncan's murder
 - B Banquo plans to join Malcolm at the English court
 - C Banquo saw him enter Duncan's chamber that night
 - D The witches promised the crown to Banquo's descendants
3. What does Macbeth tell the two murderers to win them over?
 - A That Banquo plans to have them arrested as traitors
 - B That the queen herself has ordered Banquo's death
 - C That Banquo caused their past misfortunes
 - D That Banquo murdered Duncan and must be punished
4. Macbeth tells his wife, "We have scorch'd the snake, not kill'd it." What does this image suggest?
 - A Their crime has left marks that will soon give them away
 - B The danger to them is wounded but alive and can still strike
 - C They should have poisoned Duncan instead of stabbing him
 - D Macbeth regrets the harm he has done to Scotland
5. What surprises the first two murderers as they wait for Banquo?
 - A Banquo arrives with a large armed escort
 - B A third man joins them, saying Macbeth sent him
 - C A messenger arrives to call off the attack
 - D Fleance rides ahead to warn the palace guards
6. At the banquet, why does Lady Macbeth tell the lords that her husband has had such fits since his youth?
 - A To persuade the lords that he is too ill to rule
 - B To warn the lords that he is dangerous when angry
 - C To explain why Banquo has not come to the feast
 - D To cover his outburst so the lords suspect nothing

7. After the guests leave, Macbeth says, "I am in blood Stepp'd in so far that, should I wade no more, Returning were as tedious as go o'er." What does this image show about his state of mind?
- A He wants to confess and seek forgiveness
 - B He is exhausted and ready to give up the crown
 - C He sees no point in turning back, so he will keep killing
 - D He believes the bloodshed in Scotland is nearly over
8. Reread Lennox's remark below. What is Lennox really suggesting about who killed Banquo and Duncan? Support your answer with one other detail from Scene 6.

*"And the right valiant Banquo walk'd too late; Whom, you may say, if't please you,
Fleance kill'd, For Fleance fled."*

MACBETH · ACT 4

Act 4 check

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Circle the letter of the best answer. Answer the last question in two or three sentences, with one detail from the text. Work without the book unless your teacher says otherwise.

1. What does the first apparition, the armed head, tell Macbeth?
 - A To beware Macduff, the Thane of Fife
 - B To beware Fleance, the son of Banquo
 - C To beware Malcolm and the English army
 - D To beware Ross, who carries his secrets
2. After the bloody child's promise, why does Macbeth still decide that Macduff must die?
 - A He suspects the apparition was lying to trap him
 - B He has learned that Macduff is raising an army in Fife
 - C He wants to make doubly sure and silence his own fear
 - D He wants Macduff's lands to reward the murderers
3. During the final vision, Macbeth cries, "What, will the line stretch out to th' crack of doom?" What is he reacting to?
 - A The witches' chant growing louder around the cauldron
 - B A procession of kings that Banquo claims as his line
 - C A list of the thanes who have deserted him for England
 - D A promise that his own reign will last until the end of time
4. After Ross leaves, what does Lady Macduff tell her son about his father?
 - A That he has gone to fight for Malcolm
 - B That he will come home within the week
 - C That Macbeth has taken him prisoner
 - D That he is dead, and that he was a traitor
5. Why does Malcolm falsely claim to be lustful, greedy, and unfit to rule?
 - A To test whether Macduff is secretly working for Macbeth
 - B To discourage the English king from lending him soldiers
 - C To confess his real faults before he asks for the crown
 - D To persuade Macduff to claim the throne for himself
6. According to the Doctor and Malcolm, what does the English king do for the sick?
 - A He pays doctors to treat the poor at his court
 - B He cures a disease called "the evil" by his touch
 - C He prays for the sick but refuses to see them
 - D He sends them to holy wells across England

7. Asked whether the tyrant has harmed his family, Ross tells Macduff, "No; they were well at peace when I did leave 'em." Why is this reply painful, given what Ross soon reveals?
- A "At peace" can also mean dead, which they truly are
 - B Ross has lied, since he never visited Fife at all
 - C Ross secretly blames Macduff for leaving them unguarded
 - D Ross means that Macbeth has agreed to spare them
8. Reread Macbeth's vow below, made when he hears that Macduff has fled to England. What does it suggest about how Macbeth will now act on his thoughts? Support your answer with one detail from Act 4.

"From this moment The very firstlings of my heart shall be The firstlings of my hand."

MACBETH · ACT 5

Act 5 check

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____ Score / 9

Circle the letter of the best answer. Answer the last question in two or three sentences, with one detail from the text. Work without the book unless your teacher says otherwise.

1. What has the Gentlewoman seen Lady Macbeth do in her sleep since Macbeth went to war?
 - A Write on a paper, seal it, and go back to bed
 - B Walk to the chamber where Duncan once slept
 - C Call out for her husband at the castle gate
 - D Climb to the battlements to watch for the army
2. After watching Lady Macbeth sleepwalk, why does the Doctor conclude that she needs a priest more than a physician?
 - A He thinks the witches have cast a spell on her
 - B He suspects she is only pretending to be asleep
 - C Her sickness comes from guilty secrets, not her body
 - D She has asked him to send for a priest to pray with her
3. While sleepwalking, Lady Macbeth says, "The Thane of Fife had a wife. Where is she now?" What does this line show?
 - A She is planning to send murderers after Lady Macduff
 - B She is jealous of Macduff's loyal and loving wife
 - C She believes Lady Macduff has escaped to England
 - D Her guilt now covers Macbeth's later killings, not only Duncan's
4. Near Birnam Wood, what does Malcolm order each soldier to do?
 - A Hide among the trees until nightfall
 - B Set fire to the wood to signal Macduff
 - C Cut down a bough and carry it before him
 - D Fell the oldest trees to build siege ladders
5. Told that the Queen is dead, Macbeth says, "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." What view of life do these images express?
 - A Life is short and empty, a brief show that leaves nothing
 - B Life is a stage where good actors are remembered forever
 - C Life is dark now, but light will return with Malcolm
 - D Life is a test, and heaven will judge each player's part
6. Once he learns how Macduff was born, why does Macbeth fight on anyway?
 - A He believes Birnam Wood has not truly moved
 - B He hopes Malcolm will pardon him if he fights well
 - C He thinks no sword can harm a crowned king
 - D He will not surrender only to be mocked before Malcolm

7. What does Ross tell old Siward that lets him accept his son's death with pride?
- A His son died holding Malcolm's banner
 - B His son had his wounds on the front
 - C His son was the first to enter the castle
 - D His son died beside Macduff in the charge
8. Reread Macbeth's words about the witches below. What has he come to understand about their prophecies? Support your answer with one Act 5 detail showing a prophecy fulfilled in an unexpected way.

“That palter with us in a double sense; That keep the word of promise to our ear, And break it to our hope!”
