Name: Period:

*Macbeth*

Open Book Assignment

 Act II

**Review of Scenes I and II--Literary Devices:** Match the underlined portion of the quotation to the associated device. You may use some more than once and some not at all.

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|  |  **Quotation: Choose the BEST answer!** | **Literary Device:** |
|  | 1. I will drain him dry as hay (I.iii.20).
 | 1. **simile**
2. **foreshadowing**
3. **pun**
4. **imagery**
5. **personification**
6. **dramatic irony**
7. **alliteration**
8. **paradox**
9. **onomatopoeia**
10. **allusion**
 |
|  | 1. Shall he dwindle, peak and pine (I.iii.22-23).
 |
|  |  **3.**  Lesser than Macbeth, and greater./Not so happy, yet much happier  (I.iii.63-64). |
|  |  **4.** And make my seated heart knock at my ribs. (I.iv.136) |
|  |  **5.** He was a gentleman on whom I built/An absolute trust (I.iv.13). |
|  |  **6.** The raven himself is hoarse that croaks the fatal entrance of Duncan (I.v.38). |
|  |  **7.** …and smear the sleepy grooms with blood (II.ii.48). |
|  |  **8.** …you should be women/And yet your beards forbid me to interpret that you are so (I.iii.44). |

Scene 1

1. Theaters in Shakespeare’s time did not have elaborate lighting and stage effects. What clues in the stage directions and dialogue would alert audiences that the time was after midnight?

2. In this scene, Macbeth has a famous soliloquy, “Is this a dagger which I see before me” (lines 41-70) that reveals what he is thinking prior to the murder. Write a paragraph explaining the soliloquy: What do we learn about Macbeth and his feelings about what he is about to do from this speech? What is he thinking? What does he think he sees? Hears? Why might this be?

3. How does this soliloquy reflect the theme of appearance versus reality?

4. In ll. 71-73, explain in what way does the bell toll not only for Duncan but also for the tragic hero (Macbeth)?

### Scene 2

1. In lines 51-56, identify the metaphors that describe sleep.

2. The imagery concerning blood and water in Macbeth’s speech contrast with that in Lady Macbeth’s speech. He believes that “all great Neptune’s ocean” could not clean his hands, while she claims “a little water clears us of this deed.” What is the significance of this difference?

### Scene 3

1. The porter is one of Shakespeare’s comic characters meant to relieve the tension (hence the term: comic relief). Why is the porter funny?

2. What is ironic about Macduff’s use of the word *timely* (line 47)?

3.How does Lennox describe the night, and what is Macbeth’s response? What implications does this have?

4. Why do you think Lady Macbeth faints?

### Scene 4

1. People used to believe that Kings ruled by divine right---that is to say, that they were chosen by god. So, when the king is murdered, all of nature seems to be going cuckoo! What problems in nature have/are happening? What is the correct literary term for this?

2. Ross presents an image of Duncan’s horses gone wild and cannibalizing each other. How are the horses a metaphor for Macbeth?

3. Are the last two lines an appropriate end for this bloody act? Explain.

**Your Opinion:** In addition to *clothing* and *appearance vs. reality,* we see several other recurring images or **motifs** in Acts I & II; for example, there are many mentions of *blood*. The man who tells of Macbeth’s actions during the Norwayan invasion is “bloody”, Lady Macbeth asks for thick blood to make her strong, and the couple decides to “mark” the king’s guards with blood. Real and imaginary daggers are covered in the stuff, and Macbeth says it is all over his hands.

**What does the motif of blood suggest about the plot/characters and themes of the play so far?**

Discuss in a brief paragraph. A good answer will make specific references to the plot, characters, and themes of the text and clearly explain the relationship between the image and possible meanings.

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