



TEACHING BOOKLET

For

Macbeth

This booklet is a companion to the online curriculum available at [YourFavouriteTeacher.com](https://www.yourfavouriteteacher.com), and the associated Student Workbook. It includes the content from the Macbeth course.

Structuring The Course

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE

The sequence provided is just one way of navigating through this unit in a logical fashion. It can be supportive for cover teachers, non-specialists, colleagues and adults supporting students 1:1 – for example, home educators. It plans for students to build up knowledge over time and tackle the more challenging topics later in the course. It also includes spacing by revisiting poems in later theme lessons, and interleaving by moving between different poems and themes over time. There is ample opportunity for informal or ungraded feedback outside of the 2 formal assessments – eg marking individual worksheets, and quizzing.

REVISION IDEAS

- Re-watch and re-read video and text over time to keep it fresh!
- Do quizzes on topics you learned long ago to identify the gaps in your memory
- Use the 'notes' section on each page to summarise your learning. For revision, review the 'notes' section of the site to download all of the notes you took when you studied that section before.
- Try making a timeline of events in the play, covering each act, or a timeline for each character.
- Take each theme and mind-map the key Jacobean beliefs about it, then events in the play.
- Illustrate key characters' journeys – how their characters change throughout the play – with details of what they do and say.

COMPLEMENTARY LEARNING

Flip the learning: set a topic, worksheet or video for students to work through prior to your lesson. A quick starter can review the learning and allow you to identify any misconceptions quickly; then you can move on to the more challenging task of applying the knowledge and constructing extended responses!

Print booklets of all printed resources at the start of the unit. This saves dreaded 'cut and stick' time, and is a great homework resource!

Dip in and out: choose just the videos or just the quizzes to augment the lessons you've already planned: this is like having another teacher in the room to explain things, whilst you manage your students or provide 1:1 support!

Resource List

| THEMES | Video | Topic Page | Online Quiz | Mock Exam Question | Worksheet |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Plot Overview | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | | <div><div></div></div> |
| Macbeth | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> |
| Lady Macbeth | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> |
| The Witches | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> |
| Minor Characters | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> |
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| The Supernatural | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | | <div><div></div></div> |
| Ambition | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | | <div><div></div></div> |
| Appearance vs Reality | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | | <div><div></div></div> |
| Guilt | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | <div><div></div></div> | | <div><div></div></div> |

ASSESSMENTS

Numerous assessment questions are embedded within the lessons of this course. Also included are 3 model essay responses.

Structuring The Course

COVER/INDEPENDENT LEARNING

| Lesson | Lesson Focus | Learning Objective | Resourcing & Steps | | |
|--------|---|--|---|---|---|
| 1 | Plot Overview: Acts 1-3 | To be able to understand the plot of Macbeth and its nature as a History. | Video Act 1 Topic Act 1 Overview sheet | Act 1 questions Act 1 answers Act 2 Topic Act 2 Overview Act 2 questions Act 2 Answers | Act 3 Topic Act 3 Overview Act 3 questions Act 3 answers |
| 2 | Plot Overview: Acts 4-5 | To be able to understand the plot of Macbeth and how it relates to its context. | Act 4 Topic Act 4 Overview Act 4 questions Act 4 answers | Act 5 Topic Act 5 Overview Act 5 questions Act 5 answers | Macbeth Plot Overview quiz |
| 3-4 | Macbeth | To be able to understand how the character of Macbeth relates to key themes of the play. | Macbeth Character Video | Macbeth Character Worksheet Macbeth's Character Topic | Macbeth's Key Themes Topic |
| | | | Macbeth's Key Quotes Topic | Character of Macbeth Quiz | Macbeth practice exam question |
| 5-6 | Lady Macbeth | To be able to understand how Lady Macbeth's character subverts expectations of women during Elizabethan times. | Lady Macbeth Video | Lady Macbeth Character Worksheet Lady Macbeth's Character Topic | Lady Macbeth's Key Themes Topic |
| | | | Lady Macbeth's Key Quotes Topic | Character of Lady Macbeth Quiz Character Objectives Worksheet | Macbeth practice exam question |
| 7-8 | The Witches | To be able to explain how the Witches propel the narrative of Macbeth forward and establish moral dilemmas for the characters. To be able to analyse the effects of structure within Macbeth. | The Witches Video | The Witches Character Worksheet The Witches Character Topic | The Witches Key Themes Topic |
| | | | The Witches Key Quotes Topic | Character of The Witches Quiz | Macbeth practice exam question |
| 9 | Minor Characters: Malcolm and Donalbain | To be able to evaluate the effects of Malcolm and Donalbain within Macbeth. | Minor Characters Video | Donalbain Topic Malcolm Topic Imagery & Symbolism Worksheet | Minor Character Exam Question |
| 10 | Minor Characters: Macduff | To be able to explain how the character of Macduff is represented within Macbeth. | Macduff Character Topic | Macduff Themes Topic | Macduff Worksheet |

Structuring The Course

COVER/INDEPENDENT LEARNING

| Lesson | Lesson Focus | Learning Objective | Resourcing & Steps | | |
|--------|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| 11 | Minor Characters: Banquo | To be able to identify and explain the effects of language, form and structure within Macbeth. | Banquo Themes Topic | Banquo Quotes Topic | Banquo Worksheet |
| 12 | Minor Characters: Duncan | To be able to use textual references to illustrate interpretations. | Duncan Themes Topic | Duncan Quotes Topic Duncan Quotes Sheet | Duncan Worksheet |
| 13 | Mock Assessment | AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 | Minor Character quiz Assessment questions | | |
| 14 | Theme: Supernatural | To be able to explain how contextual beliefs in the Supernatural are reflected in the plot of Macbeth. | Supernatural Video | Supernatural Topic Match-Up Worksheet Macbeth Analysis Worksheet | Supernatural Quiz |
| 15 | Theme: Ambition | To be able to explain how the theme of ambition is represented in the plot of Macbeth. | Ambition Video Ambition Topic | Ambition as the downfall of the Macbeths Topic Ambition | Ambition Quiz Review Model Answer 3 |
| 16 | Theme: Appearance vs Reality | To be able to explain how Macbeth explores the theme of appearance vs reality. | Appearance vs Reality Video Appearance vs Reality Topic | Lady Macbeth Analysis Worksheet Themes Worksheet | Appearance vs Reality Quiz Review Model Answer 1 |
| 17 | Theme: Guilt | To be able to explain how the theme of guilt is represented within Macbeth. | Guilt Video Guilt Topic | Witches Worksheet Structure of Macbeth Worksheet | Guilt Quiz Review Model Answer 2 |
| 18 | Assessment | AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 | Assessment questions | | |

Suggested Questions

| Lesson | Lesson Focus | Questions |
|--------|---|---|
| 1 | Plot Overview: Acts 1-3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does the play begin with the Witches? How does this prepare the audience for the main story? How do Macbeth and Banquo each respond to the prophecies? What hints does this give us about the future? What are your impressions of Lady Macbeth? How would a Jacobean audience have looked at her character? When does Lady Macbeth begin to show guilt for her actions? |
| 2 | Plot Overview: Acts 4-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does Macbeth return to the Witches? How has Macbeth's character changed by Act 4, compared to Acts 1 and 2? How has Lady Macbeth changed in Act 5? How do you think the audience is positioned to respond to her? How does the character of Macbeth contrast with the character of Macduff? |
| 3-4 | Macbeth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the beginning of the play Macbeth is reluctant to kill the king. How is he encouraged/persuaded by his wife? Macbeth is described as brave and bold, yet his wife dominates him. How would the Jacobean audience have responded to this? What similarities does this hold with the book of Genesis? How does the audience feel about Macbeth's bravery and ambition? Is Macbeth religious or superstitious? Why does he listen too, and seek out, the Witches' prophecies? |
| 5-6 | Lady Macbeth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lady Macbeth is an unusually bold and assertive woman for her time. Can you find some examples of her bold, assertive behaviour? Can you give an example of her brutality/ruthlessness? Even though she was eager to murder, Lady Macbeth's behaviour changes immediately after the murder. What emotions is she feeling? |
| 7-8 | The Witches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do the witches look? Why has Shakespeare made these choices? What did the Jacobeans think of witches? Some people argue that Shakespeare used the witches as a structural device. Can you explain? How does Banquo feel about the witches? Why does Macbeth go back to the witches? |
| 9 | Minor Characters: Malcolm and Donalbain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why would Macbeth target Malcolm? Can you relate this to the Great Chain of Being? Does Malcolm seem like someone the audience should respect and admire? Why/why not? How do his leadership qualities change as the play progresses? Why does Donalbain flee the country in Act 2? How does Donalbain's distrust foreshadow future events? |
| 10 | Minor Characters: Macduff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macbeth and Macduff are both highly ambitious; most audiences would say that Macbeth's ambition is evil but Macduff is essentially good. How does their ambitions differ? Does Macduff value his country or family more? Why? |
| 11 | Minor Characters: Banquo | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is Banquo so skeptical about the witches and their prophecies? When Banquo is attacked, he tells his son Fleance to flee rather than help him. Why? How does this reveal his character? Who does Banquo show loyalty to during the play? Explain. |

Suggested Questions

| Lesson | Lesson Focus | Questions |
|--------|------------------------------|---|
| 12 | Minor Characters: Duncan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were Jacobean attitudes towards kings and queens? Does Shakespeare present Duncan as a good ruler or a poor one? Why do you think he made that choice? |
| 13 | Mock Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do I need to do in order to achieve well? How will I break down the question? How will I plan my response? What common errors do I need to avoid? |
| 14 | Theme: Supernatural | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think the witches 'saw the future' and told Macbeth about their visions truthfully? Or do you think the witches may have made prophecies in order to shape Macbeth's actions? How would the audience feel about Macbeth listening so closely to the prophecies? How does Lady Macbeth interpret the prophecies? Why does she call upon supernatural forces? |
| 15 | Theme: Ambition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macbeth is ambitious to claim the throne. What is Lady Macbeth ambitious for exactly? Is Macbeth shown as happy when he achieves his ambition of becoming king? Why/why not? Are there characters which are presented as both ambitious and good? Explain. |
| 16 | Theme: Appearance vs Reality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The witches use lots of oxymorons such as 'fair is foul and foul is fair'. Why do you think this is? Lady Macbeth advises Macbeth to 'look like the innocent flow, but be the serpent under it'. What does she mean by this? Macbeth is sneaky and lies about Duncan's death. How does this shape the audience's response to him? Who in the play is too trusting of appearances, and who is suspicious? |
| 17 | Theme: Guilt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macbeth and Banquo show no guilt for the people they kill during the war, and yet Macbeth shows guilt for killing the king. What's the difference? Why does Macbeth hallucinate, seeing the dagger and Banquo's ghost? Why not the King's ghost? How does Lady Macbeth show her feelings of guilt as the play progresses? Does showing guilt make her a good or bad person? |
| 18 | Assessment 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the examiner looking for? How to I distinguish myself from other students? What have I learned from my last assessment, to do better this time? What sorts of mistakes are common, and how can I avoid them? |

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