

Text: *The Tragedy of Macbeth*

Author: William Shakespeare

Due: Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Part I: Multiple Choice:** Select the option that best answers the question or completes the sentence.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The French word “renaissance,” which refers to renewed interest in classical learning, literally means...

- A. after the Middle Ages.    B. new energy.    C. of classical origins.    D. rebirth.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Classical literature became more widely available during the Renaissance era primarily due to

- A. the invention of the printing press.  
B. traveling missionaries.  
C. access to the Vatican library  
D. the Wars of the Roses and interest in British history

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Theatrical performances were first performed by...

- A. the nobility, for their families  
B. the clergy, for the peasants and illiterate.  
C. merchants and guildsmen, for the trade class  
D. serfs, for their children

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. The first permanent theaters, such as the Globe and the Swan, were built...

- A. near churches.    B. outside the city limits    C. in Canterbury    D. within castles

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Early permanent theaters included all of the following features, *except*...

- A. an open-air, octagonal amphitheater  
B. seating for the nobility behind the stage  
C. a standing-room area for peasants in the orchestra  
D. an intricate system of lighting and sound effects

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. William Shakespeare wrote 38 plays that focus primarily on which Renaissance school of thought?

- A. Feudalism    B. Humanism    C. Existentialism    D. Metaphysics

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. All of the following statements about Elizabeth I are true *except*...

- A. Although courted by many foreign and powerful suitors, Elizabeth I refused to marry.  
B. She was the first female monarch of England and ruled for over 60 years.  
C. Under Elizabeth I’s reign, England flourished economically and politically.  
D. Elizabeth I reluctantly allowed the public performance of plays but never became a supporter of Shakespeare or the arts.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. The Renaissance era spans the years of...

- A. 1485-1660 AD  
B. 1180-1485 AD  
C. 450-1180 AD  
D. 1500-1750 AD
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**Part II: Matching:** Match the character description with the character's name.

A. Macbeth	B. Lady Macbeth	C. King Duncan	D. Malcolm	E. Banquo
AB. Weird Sisters	AC. Fleance	AD. Macduff	AE. Lady Macduff	BC. Lennox

9. \_\_\_\_\_ an honest, meek leader who is deceived by two of his own thanes and murdered
10. \_\_\_\_\_ cruel and conniving mastermind, who later succumbs to the horror of reality and dies
11. \_\_\_\_\_ prophesized to be the future King of Scotland and have a long line of descendants
12. \_\_\_\_\_ mysterious harbingers of fate who influence the demise of the central character
13. \_\_\_\_\_ a formerly loyal soldier who commits atrocities against Scotland and his comrades
14. \_\_\_\_\_ a observant nobleman and messenger who appears in every act
15. \_\_\_\_\_ a clear-headed, morally upright nobleman who is a casualty of another man's greed
16. \_\_\_\_\_ a Scottish nobleman whose son is maliciously crucified on stage
17. \_\_\_\_\_ named heir to the throne of Scotland, but later suspected of his father's murder
18. \_\_\_\_\_ an innocent bystander who is left defenseless when her husband leaves Scotland to assemble English forces

**Part III: Multiple Choice:** Select the option that best answers the question or completes the sentence.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Which noble person was likely seated among the audience during performances of *Macbeth*?  
 A. King Henry VIII.      B. Thomas a' Becket.      C. Queen Elizabeth.      D. King James I.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Before Macbeth makes his first appearance in the play, the audience learns about his  
 A. ruthless ambition.      B. noble family.      C. ambivalent feelings.      D. bravery in battle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. In Act 1, Scene 3, what astonishing news does Ross bring Macbeth?  
 A. Lady Macbeth has had a son  
 B. The Thane of Glamis has been killed  
 C. The Thane of Cawdor has been executed and Macbeth now holds the title  
 D. The Scottish army has just lost the battle with the Norwegians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. In Act 1, Scene 5, Lady Macbeth learns of her husband's prophecy, but says, "Yet I do fear thy nature; it is too full of the milk of human kindness" (16-17). Here, she is worried about Macbeth's  
 A. violence.      B. gentleness.      C. cowardice.      D. ambition.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. What is Lady Macbeth's plan for murdering Duncan?  
 A. She will poison the king's food. He will die in his sleep and it will look like a natural death.  
 B. They will bribe the guards and offer them money and power to kill the king.  
 C. Macbeth's soldiers will come into the banquet disguised as robbers. They will commit the murder and wound Macbeth so that it doesn't look suspicious.  
 D. She will get the king's guards drunk. Macbeth will kill Duncan, using the guard's daggers.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. In Act 1, Scene 7, which reason for sparing Duncan's life does Macbeth *not* consider?
- A. Duncan is a respected king.
  - B. Macbeth is Duncan's kinsman.
  - C. Macbeth is Duncan's host for the evening.
  - D. Duncan will die soon anyway.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. Lady Macbeth does not kill Duncan herself because
- A. she has no dagger.
  - B. Duncan resembles her father.
  - C. Macbeth kills him before she has a chance.
  - D. she cannot bear to see blood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. In Act 2, Scene 1, Macbeth remarks, "Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible to feeling as to sight?...I see thee yet, in form as palpable as this which now I draw" (48-53). What is the "fatal vision" he refers to?
- A. Duncan's head
  - B. A dagger
  - C. The Weird Sisters
  - D. a strong liquor
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. After the king's murder in Act 2, Scene 1, Macbeth reveals
- A. iron nerves and a firm will.
  - B. sudden love and respect for Duncan.
  - C. a loathing of Lady Macbeth.
  - D. great agitation and fear.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. The morning after Duncan's murder, Lennox comments about unusual natural events that occurred the night before. These portentous events suggest
- A. that Macbeth is greedy for power.
  - B. that the night is quiet and peaceful, an ironic inversion of setting and mood.
  - C. that omens of evil foreshadow tumultuous, stormy events to come
  - D. that snowy weather indicates a long winter ahead.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. In Act 3, Scene 4, Macbeth is hosting a banquet when a murderer returns to report the results of the ambush against Banquo and Fleance. In response, Macbeth says, "The worm that's fled hath nature that in time will venom breed, no teeth for the present" (31-33). What does this mean?
- A. He is having nightmares about snakes.
  - B. Once a man commits murder he has the urge to do it again.
  - C. Banquo's descendants may be a threat in the future, but are not an immediate threat now
  - D. He regrets that he and Lady Macbeth have no children to carry on his reign after he dies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. The turning point of the play is often considered to be \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Macbeth's murder of Duncan; he will continue to murder anyone who is a threat to his power
  - B. the news of Fleance's escape; Macbeth then shows physical signs of paranoia that others witness
  - C. the murder of Macduff's family; it precipitates a war between England and Scotland.
  - D. Lady Macbeth sleepwalking; she is no longer rational or calculating
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. The murder of Macduff's son on stage is an egregious example of
- A. Ross's miscommunication.
  - B. Macbeth's ambition.
  - C. Hecate's fury and frustration.
  - D. the Weird Sisters' sardonic revenge.



- A. intends to drug her husband.
- B. will manipulate Macbeth to take the crown by one means or another.
- C. will panic if Macbeth returns to the castle too soon.
- D. dreads that the king will punish Macbeth rather than reward him.

\_\_\_\_\_ 41. Donalbain: *Where we are  
There's daggers in men's smiles; the near in blood,  
The nearer bloody.* 2.3.164-166

**In this quote, Donalbain is speaking to \_\_\_\_\_ and means \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. Duncan; they must look pleasant and smile though we feel quite the opposite in our hearts.
- B. Malcolm; they cannot trust the smiles of those around us because they may want to kill us.
- C. Macduff; he must not smile or someone may think he murdered his father.
- D. Ross; he suggests that he knows who murdered his father.

\_\_\_\_\_ 42. Macbeth: *Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,  
And put a barren scepter in my gripe.* 3.1.61-62

**Macbeth admits**

- A. he finds being king a disappointment.
- B. he feels that he lacks a true king's powers.
- C. he feels inferior to several of his nobles.
- D. he regrets the witches' prophecy that his descendants will not rule.

\_\_\_\_\_ 43. Doctor: *Foul whisperings are abroad; unnatural deeds  
Do breed unnatural troubles; infected minds  
To their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets.* 5.1.75-78

**The doctor means...**

- A. These are symptoms of mental health issue.
- B. keeping troubles a secret causes sleeplessness
- C. a guilty conscience may reveal itself during sleep.
- D. all of the above

\_\_\_\_\_ 44. Macbeth: *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.* 5.5.26-29

**The candle symbolizes**

- A. night.
- B. Banquo's death.
- C. Lady Macbeth's short life.
- D. war

\_\_\_\_\_ 45. "A drum, a drum. Macbeth doth come" (1.3.31-32).

**Who is the speaker?** A. Weird Sisters B. Duncan C. Banquo D. Macduff

\_\_\_\_\_ 46. "But 'tis strange and oftentimes, to win us to our harm, the instruments of darkness tell us truths" (1.3.134-136).

**Who is the speaker?** A. Duncan B. Macduff C. Ross D. Banquo

\_\_\_\_\_ 47. The **audience** for the above quote (#46) is

- A. Duncan
- B. Macduff
- C. Ross
- D. Macbeth

\_\_\_\_\_ 48. "Come, you spirits that tend on mortal thoughts. Unsex me here, and fill me from the crown to the toe top-full of direst cruelty" (1.5.47-48).

**Who is the speaker?** A. Lady Macbeth B. Macbeth C. Malcolm D. Banquo

- \_\_\_\_\_ 49. The **purpose** of the above quote (#48) is
- A. Express desire to transform into a ruthless, masculine figure
  - B. Call upon spirits for their blessing
  - C. Offer condolences to the families who will be affected
  - D. Appeal to the Weird Sisters to join in her ambitious undertaking
- \_\_\_\_\_ 50. "Avaunt and quit my sight! Let the earth hide thee. Thy bones are marrowless; thy blood is cold..." (3.4.12-13).
- Who is the speaker?**    A. Macbeth    B. Donalbain    C. Lady Macbeth    D. Ross
- \_\_\_\_\_ 51. The **audience** for the above quote (#50) is
- A. Lennox    B. Macduff    C. Lady Macbeth    D. Banquo's Ghost
- \_\_\_\_\_ 52. "I am in blood stepped in so far that, should I wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o'er. Strange things I have in head that will to hand, which must be acted ere they may be scanned" (3.4.168-170).
- Who is the speaker?**    A. Macbeth    B. Lady Macbeth    C. Malcolm    D. Macduff
- \_\_\_\_\_ 53. "Turn, hellhound, turn!...I have no words; My voice is in my sword, thou bloodier villain than terms can give out to thee" (5.8.1-6).
- Who is the speaker?**    A. Macbeth    B. Macduff    C. Porter    D. Lennox
- \_\_\_\_\_ 54. The **audience** of the above quote (#53) is
- A. Macbeth    B. Macduff    C. Porter    D. Lennox
- \_\_\_\_\_ 55. The speaker's **purpose** in the above quote (#53) is to
- A. curse Scotland's fate    C. offend his foe's sensibilities
  - B. praise his opponent's ruthlessness    D. challenge the other to a duel
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