

Name: _____

Honors English 12

Date: _____

Period 8

Macbeth

Act II Study Guide

Scene 1

1. Lines 17-19 Do you believe in Macbeth's sincerity here?
2. Lines 25-29 How do you think Macbeth feels about Banquo's virtuous stand?
3. Lines 33-43 Is Macbeth losing his mind?
4. What is Macbeth referring to in lines 49-50, "Now o'er the one half-world / Nature seems dead"? Do his words give you a feeling that something ominous is about to happen? Explain.

Scene 2

1. Lines 9-10 Why does the sound of Macbeth's voice make his wife so afraid?

2. Lines 36-40 Why is Macbeth so concerned about sleep?
3. Lines 56-57 How is Lady Macbeth's attitude toward blood different from her husband's?

Scene 3

1. In most of Shakespeare's plays, comic episodes interrupt the plot to relieve the main action. The Porter's prose exemplifies the element of comic relief in an otherwise tragic story line. How is humor helpful at this point? Why?
2. Lines 91-95 Is Macbeth being completely insincere, or does he regret his crime?
3. Line 118 Lady Macbeth faints. Is she only pretending?
4. Predict what will happen to Malcolm and Donalbain as a result of their departure.
5. Lines 129-132 Do you think Banquo suspects Macbeth?