

## **Macbeth –Study Questions (Form 5)**

### **Scene One**

1. Give two or three adjectives to describe the atmosphere of this opening scene.
2. What main character is mentioned? What future event is referred to?
3. In what ways might the audience's interest be particularly caught by this short scene?

### **Scene Two**

1. What do we learn about Macbeth and his efforts on the battlefield? List several qualities.
2. What do we learn about the original Thane of Cawdor? Why is this important?
3. What reward is given to Macbeth at the end of the scene? Why?

### **Scene Three**

1. List phrases that reveal the witches' evil nature, their vengefulness, and their super-natural powers.
2. Name the three prophecies given to Macbeth and to Banquo. How does each character react to the prophecies? Include not only reactions to the prophecies related to themselves, but also to each other's.
3. After Ross informs Macbeth of his new appointment, what lines reveal Macbeth's ambition?

### **Scene Four**

1. How does Macbeth react when he discovers that Malcolm will succeed Duncan?
2. Find the irony in Duncan's first speech ("There's no art . . .") and his final speech ("True, worthy Banquo . . .").

### **Scene Five**

1. What phrases in Lady Macbeth's opening speeches indicate her
  - (a) determination,
  - (b) heartlessness, and
  - c) sense of evil?
2. What is Macbeth's reaction to his wife's proposal for the murder of Duncan that very night?

### **Scene Six**

1. What types of imagery are used to describe Macbeth's castle in this scene? How is the idyllic setting ironic?
2. Explain the irony in Lady Macbeth's welcome.

### **Scene Seven**

1. What reasons does Macbeth provide for NOT murdering Duncan?
2. Provide details regarding what finally convinces Macbeth to fulfill the murderous plan.