

# Macbeth

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

## **Macbeth**

### **Key Writing Skills**



- Use metaphor, simile and personification.
- Use a range of authorial techniques to achieve specific effects.
- Introduce and develop characters through blending action, dialogue and description within sentences and paragraphs.
- Use semi-colons to link two clauses of equal weight.
- Use ellipsis to link ideas between paragraphs.

SPaG Warm-up

Semi-colons


L.O. To use a semi-colon in place of a conjunction.



## Semicolons

A semicolon can be used in place of a connective to link two main clauses which are of equal importance.

Example: The film was brilliant, therefore we had a great time.

The film  was brilliant; we had a great time.

In your books, write the sentences replacing conjunctions with a semi-colon (3 & 4 don't have a conjunction!).

Macbeth was deeply disturbed as he had murdered the King.

Lady Macbeth was angry at Macbeth because he had blood on his hands.

Macbeth dreamed of becoming king the witches had prophesised it.

The lords became worried they wondered whether the King had gone mad.

Now write some of your own.

Banquo was not at the feast. All the world was there, laughing, smiling, jesting, drinking—but not Banquo. Macbeth, the royal host, walked among his guests in high good humour, found a place at table, sat down . . .

“We’ll drink a measure,” he proposed; when he saw a man appear in the doorway, a grim, muffled-looking man whose eye caught his, and who beckoned. Macbeth left the table and went to the man. He stood close, stared at him.

“There’s blood upon thy face,” he murmured.

“ ’Tis Banquo’s then.”

“Is he dispatched?”

“His throat is cut.”

Macbeth nodded. And Fleance? What of the son? The man shook his head. The son had escaped. Dismay filled Macbeth’s heart. Then he recovered himself. The worst, at least, was done. Banquo was dead. He dismissed the man and returned to the feast. He hesitated. The guests looked up at him.

“May it please your Highness sit?”

Macbeth frowned in puzzlement. “The table’s full,” he said.

“Here is a place reserved, Sir.”

“Where?”

“Here, my good Lord.”

He looked. He grew deathly white. He shook and trembled till he could scarcely stand. He tried to speak. His voice was thick with dread.

“Which of you have done this?”

The place offered to him was filled. Banquo was sitting in it! Banquo, his head half off, and all painted with his life’s blood! Grimly the ghost of the murdered man glared at his murderer.

“Thou canst not say I did it,” groaned Macbeth; “never shake thy gory locks at me!”

Read the next section of the text with Miss Terrell’s video.

Amazement seized the table as the guests saw the whitened King shake and stare and mutter at an empty stool. Urgently the Queen tried to calm the company, and still more urgently to calm her frantic husband.

"Why do you make such faces?" she whispered to him. "When all's done, you look but on a stool!"

Neither she nor anyone else could see what he could see. The ghost had come for him alone. Then it departed and briefly Macbeth recovered himself. But not for long. The gashed and bleeding spectre returned, and its dreadful looks drove the King into a frenzy.

The feast broke up in dismay, and the guests rose in confusion. The King was ill. What was wrong?

"I pray you speak not," cried the distressed Queen; "he grows worse and worse. Question enrages him. At once, good night. Stand not upon the order of your going; but go at once!"

Once alone, the Queen and King stared at one another across the ruins of the feast.

"It will have blood, they say," muttered Macbeth; "blood will have blood."

The Queen was silent.

"How sayest thou, that Macduff denies his person at our bidding?" he murmured, his thoughts turning to another enemy as he recollected that Macduff had failed to attend the feast.

"Did you send to him, Sir?"

"I heard it by the way," he said; "but I will send." Another crime, another murder . . . but did it matter any more? "I am in blood stepped in so far," he sighed, "that, should I wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o'er."

He shook his head. On the next day he would seek out those who had first set him on the dark and bloody path along which he had already travelled so far. The weird sisters.

"More shall they speak," he said; "for now I am bent to know by the worst means the worst."



L.O. To be able to infer a character's thoughts, feelings and motives and justify using PEE.

Read and respond to the text (Garfield's version).  
Find relevant evidence to support your points.



How did Macbeth feel when he heard the witches' prophecies?

Macbeth's feelings	Evidence
1..... .....	..... .....
2..... .....	..... .....

Find the evidence in the extract on the next page (also downloadable from the Y6 RL area on the website).

## L.O. To be able to infer a character's thoughts, feelings and motives and justify using PEE.

The drum faltered . . .

"All hail Macbeth, that shalt be King hereafter!"

King! The drum stopped. King! It seemed that another drum was beating. Macbeth could hear it, thudding and thundering in his ears. It was his furious heart! He trembled and grew pale, fearing that Banquo would hear the tell-tale sound. But Banquo was no more proof than he against the golden promise in the weird old women's words.

"If you can look into the seeds of time," he begged them eagerly, "and

which will not, speak then to me . . ."

came true. The King had made him Thane of Cawdor!

"What! Can the Devil speak true?" cried Banquo, involuntarily; and Macbeth's thoughts turned helplessly to the second prophecy: he would be King! If one had come true, why not the other? Dark thoughts filled his head, thoughts of how that prophecy might be made to come true. He tried to put them from him. He shook his head violently. "If Chance will have me King," he reasoned to himself, "why Chance may crown me without my stir."

But Chance proved as wayward as a woman, first offering, now denying. When he returned to the royal camp with the messengers, he heard King Duncan pronounce Malcolm, his son, as heir to the throne of Scotland. Chance had mocked him; all was lost. Then Chance offered again. The kindly King declared that he would travel to Inverness, and stay one night as the guest of his loyal and well-loved subject, Macbeth.

"Stars, hide your fires!" whispered Macbeth, as he set off ahead of the King to warn his wife to prepare for the royal night. "Let not light see my black and deep desires!"

L.O. To be able to infer a character's thoughts, feelings and motives and justify using PEE.

Read and respond to the text (Garfield's version).

Find relevant evidence to support your points.



Why did Banquo '*keep his thoughts to himself*'?

Explain to Macbeth Banquo's motives.

Use evidence from the text (page 280) to support your answer.

Reason	Evidence
1..... .....	..... .....
2. .... .....	..... .....

Find the evidence in the extract on the next page (also downloadable from the Y6 RL area on the website).



He was at Forres in the royal palace, soon after Macbeth and his Lady had been crowned. There was to be a banquet that night. All the Scottish nobles, himself included, had been summoned to do homage to the new King. Banquo watched, but kept his thoughts to himself. This was partly caution, and partly because he also had been given a promise by the weird sisters. Though he would not be King himself, he would be father to kings.

"Ride you this afternoon?" inquired Macbeth, coming upon his old companion-in-arms, and fondly greeting him.

"Aye, my good Lord," answered Banquo, and confided that he would not be back till an hour or two after nightfall.

"Goes Fleance with you?"

"Aye, my good Lord . . ."

Macbeth nodded, and wished Banquo and his son Godspeed.

"Fail not our feast," he said and stared after Banquo long and deep. He had not forgotten the old women's prophecy to his friend; and the recollection of it festered in his heart.

How did you do?

Send in your work via Seesaw.