

TEXT: <i>Macbeth</i> PLOT		CHARACTERS		METHOD			ENABLING LANGUAGE
Act 1:	Macbeth and Banquo meet witches who offer them prophecies. Cawdor is executed. Lady Macbeth receives a letter from Macbeth about the witches. Duncan arrives at Macbeth's castle.	CHARACTER NAME /BRIEF BIO.		FORM	LANGUAGE	STRUCTURE	Apparition: A vision or a ghost.
Act 2:	Macbeth sees a dagger, which reflects his doubts about murdering Duncan. Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth to go through with the murder. Malcolm flees and Macbeth is crowned King.	Macbeth: A loyal warrior who becomes duplicitous as he grows increasingly obsessed with the witches' prophecies.	Lady Macbeth: Macbeth's wife who drives his ambition at the beginning but is consumed by guilt in the end.	Soliloquy	Semantic Field	Five Act Structure	Concealment: The action of hiding something or preventing it from being known.
Act 3:	Banquo suspects Macbeth and Macbeth becomes increasingly paranoid. Macbeth kills Banquo, but Banquo's son Fleance escapes. Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost.	Banquo: Macbeth's close friend and ally who also receives prophecies from the witches. Is eventually killed by Macbeth. Returns as a ghost.	The witches: Also known as the weird sisters. Offer a series of prophecies to Macbeth and Banquo. They mesmerise Macbeth.	Tragedy	Imagery	Off-stage action	Iambic Pentameter: The most common meter in English verse. It consists of a line ten syllables long that is accented on every second beat.
Act 4:	The witches offer more prophecies. Macbeth orders the deaths of Macduff's wife and children. Macduff and Malcolm agree to invade Scoriand and challenge Macbeth's reign.	King Duncan: Portrayed as a strong and respected leader at the start of the play. Killed by Macbeth.	Macduff: A brave warrior who is loyal to King Duncan and suspicious of Macbeth. Joins forces with Malcolm to defeat Macbeth.	Dramatic Irony	Symbolism	Climax	Prophecy: A prediction of what will happen in the future.
Act 5:	Lady Macbeth's mental state deteriorates and she kills herself. Malcolm's army invades Scotland, through Burnham Wood, and Macbeth is defeated. Malcolm is crowned King.	Malcolm: King Duncan's son who flees after his father's death. Overthrows Macbeth and takes his rightful place as King.	Fleance: Banquo's young son who flees when his life is threatened by Macbeth's murderers.	Stage Directions + Props	Paradox	Development of conflict	Prose: The written form of ordinary language.
KEY THEMES EXPLORED		CONTEXT		AO1	AO2	AO4	Regicide: The deliberate killing of a King.
Power + ambition	Appearance + reality	King James was fascinated by witchcraft and it is likely that they were included in the play, by Shakespeare, to please him.	<i>Macbeth</i> is loosely based on true events in feudal Scotland in the 11th Century. James I inherited the throne from his ancestors Banquo and Fleance, who appear in the play.	Personal response + textual detail.	Analysis of form, language + structure.	Spelling, punctuation + grammar.	Setting: The location of the action of the play.
Fate + free will	Kingship	James I believed in the Divine Right of Kings, meaning that any attempt to depose a King went directly against God.					Thane: A Scottish Lord.
Visions	Gender	Both King James' parents were killed in politically motivated moves to secure power. James I's life was threatened in the gun powder plot. Shakespeare echoes this interest in usurpation in the murders in the play.					Verse: Writing arranged within a metrical rhythm, typically having a rhyme.