**Revision booklet**



***‘Macbeth’***

**Shakespeare**

**The Exam for this text…**

* English Literature
* Paper 1 :Section A: Shakespeare play
* Marks = 34
* Paper 1 = 1 hour 45 minutes
* **Recommended time for both sections = 50 minutes, which leaves 5 minutes to check everything.**
* Closed book = no copy in the exam.
* You will be given an extract from the text, with a question relating to the extract.
* The question will then have two bullet points, one of which will direct you to write in detail about the **extract**; the other will then ask you to relate to **the play as a whole**.
* You need to use the **PELE structure** to write your responses, just don’t forget to **include context** – see AOs below.
* The best way to revise for this exam: make sure you know this text very well. It is a rather challenging text, so you must read it again. You can also create mind-maps about the characters and their relationships, as well as locate key quotes to remember.
* If you struggle with this text, perhaps watching a version of the play will

help.

**Assessment Objectives**

**AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts. You should be able to:

* maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
* use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

**AO4:** Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures, accurate spelling.

**Exam practice :** Practice planning the following questions. When you come to writing these essays up, be sure to practice under timed conditions.

SECTION A: SHAKESPEARE

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from *Macbeth* Act 2 Scene 2, and answer the question that follows it.

At this point in the play, Macbeth has just murdered King Duncan.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LADY MACBETH**  These deeds must not be thought  After these ways; so, it will make us mad.  **MACBETH**  Methought I heard a voice cry ‘Sleep no more:  Macbeth does murder sleep’, the innocent sleep,  Sleep that knits up the ravelled sleeve of care,  The death of each day’s life, sore labour’s bath,  Balm of hurt minds, great nature’s second course,  Chief nourisher in life’s feast.  **LADY MACBETH**  What do you mean?  **MACBETH**  Still it cried ‘Sleep no more’ to all the house;  ‘Glamis hath murdered sleep’, and therefore Cawdor  Shall sleep no more: Macbeth shall sleep no more.  **LADY MACBETH**  Who was it, that thus cried? Why, worthy thane,  You do unbend your noble strength to think  So brain-sickly of things. Go get some water,  And wash this filthy witness from your hand.  Why did you bring these daggers from the place?  They must lie there. Go carry them and smear  The sleepy grooms with blood.  **MACBETH**  I’ll go no more.  I am afraid to think what I have done;  Look on’t again, I dare not.  **LADY MACBETH**  Infirm of purpose!  Give me the daggers. The sleeping and the dead  Are but as pictures; ’tis the eye of childhood  That fears a painted devil. |  |

Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as an unstable character.

Write about:

* how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth at this point in the play
* how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.

**[30 marks]**

**A04 [4 marks]**

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from *Macbeth* Act 1 Scene 7, and answer the question that follows it.

At this point in the play, Lady Macbeth is still trying to convince Macbeth to kill King Duncan.

**MACBETH**

We will proceed no further in this business.  
He hath honoured me of late, and I have bought  
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,  
Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,  
Not cast aside so soon.

**LADY MACBETH**

Was the hope drunk  
Wherein you dressed yourself? Hath it slept since?  
And wakes it now to look so green and pale  
At what it did so freely? From this time,  
Such I account thy love. Art thou afeard  
To be the same in thine own act and valour  
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that  
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life,  
And live a coward in thine own esteem,  
Letting I dare not wait upon I would,  
Like the poor cat i'th'adage?

**MACBETH**

Prithee, peace.  
I dare do all that may become a man;  
Who dares do more is none.

**LADY MACBETH**

What beast was't then  
That made you break this enterprise to me?  
When you durst do it, then you were a man.  
And to be more than what you were, you would  
Be so much more the man. Nor time, nor place  
Did then adhere, and yet you would make both.  
They have made themselves and that their fitness now  
Does unmake you. I have given suck and know  
How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me:  
I would, while it was smiling in my face,  
Have plucked my nipple from his boneless gums  
And dashed the brains out, had I so sworn  
As you have done to this.

**MACBETH**

If we should fail?

**LADY MACBETH**

We fail?  
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,  
And we'll not fail.

**Starting with this extract, how does Lady Macbeth use language to manipulate her husband in the play?**

Write about:

* how she persuades him to her point of view in this extract
* how she uses her powers of persuasion in the rest of the play

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from Act 3 Scene 2 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth has arranged the killing of Banquo and is reflecting on the killing of Duncan.

**MACBETH**

We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it:  
She'll close and be herself, whilst our poor malice  
Remains in danger of her former tooth.  
But let the frame of things disjoint, both the  
worlds suffer,  
Ere we will eat our meal in fear and sleep  
In the affliction of these terrible dreams  
That shake us nightly: better be with the dead,  
Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace,  
Than on the torture of the mind to lie  
In restless ecstasy. Duncan is in his grave;  
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;  
Treason has done his worst: nor steel, nor poison,  
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing,  
Can touch him further.

**LADY MACBETH**

Come on;  
Gentle my lord, sleek o'er your rugged looks;  
Be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

**MACBETH**

So shall I, love; and so, I pray, be you:  
Let your remembrance apply to Banquo;  
Present him eminence, both with eye and tongue:  
Unsafe the while, that we  
Must lave our honours in these flattering streams,  
And make our faces vizards to our hearts,  
Disguising what they are.

**LADY MACBETH**

You must leave this.

Starting with this extract, explain how you think Shakespeare presents deceitfulness.

Write about:

• how Shakespeare presents deception in this extract

• how Shakespeare presents deceit in the play as a whole.

**[30 marks]**

**AO4 [4 marks]**

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play the witches have met and are now ready to meet Macbeth and deliver his predictions.

**ALL (3witches chant)**

The weird sisters, hand in hand,  
Posters of the sea and land,  
Thus do go about, about:  
Thrice to thine and thrice to mine  
And thrice again, to make up nine.  
Peace! the charm's wound up.

*Enter MACBETH and BANQUO*

**MACBETH**

So foul and fair a day I have not seen.

**BANQUO**

How far is't call'd to Forres? What are these  
So wither'd and so wild in their attire,  
That look not like the inhabitants o' the earth,  
And yet are on't? Live you? or are you aught  
That man may question? You seem to understand me,  
By each at once her chappy finger laying  
Upon her skinny lips: you should be women,  
And yet your beards forbid me to interpret  
That you are so.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents the witches.

Write about:

• how Shakespeare presents the witches in this extract

• how Shakespeare presents the witches and/or other smaller characters in the play as a whole.

**[30 marks]**

**AO4 [4 marks]**

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from the end of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth is about to be killed by Macduff.

**MACDUFF**

Despair thy charm;  
And let the angel whom thou still hast served  
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb  
Untimely ripp'd.

**MACBETH**

Accursed be that tongue that tells me so,  
For it hath cow'd my better part of man!  
And be these juggling fiends no more believed,  
That palter with us in a double sense;  
That keep the word of promise to our ear,  
And break it to our hope. I'll not fight with thee.

**MACDUFF**

Then yield thee, coward,  
And live to be the show and gaze o' the time:  
We'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,  
Painted on a pole, and underwrit,  
'Here may you see the tyrant.'

**MACBETH**

I will not yield,  
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,  
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.  
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,  
And thou opposed, being of no woman born,  
Yet I will try the last. Before my body  
I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff,  
And damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

Starting with this extract, explain how bravery is presented

.

Write about:

• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Macduff in this extract

• how Shakespeare presents bravery/ brave characters in the play as a whole.

**[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]**

***Macbeth***

Read the following extract from Act 5 Scene 1 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Lady Macbeth is sleepwalking, being observed by her Doctor..

**LADY MACBETH**

The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now?--  
What, will these hands ne'er be clean?--No more o'  
that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with  
this starting.

**Doctor**

Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

**Gentlewoman**

She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of  
that: heaven knows what she has known.

**LADY MACBETH**

Here's the smell of the blood still: all the  
perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little  
hand. Oh, oh, oh!

**Doctor**

What a sigh is there! The heart is sorely charged.

**LADY MACBETH**

Wash your hands, put on your nightgown; look not so  
pale.--I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he  
cannot come out on's grave.

Starting with this extract, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as weak.

Write about:

• how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this extract

• how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.

**[30 marks]**

**AO4 [4 marks]**