

Macbeth

Act Four

Comprehension Check

Directions: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the play, answer the following questions using complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to use your Scene Guide to help you.

Scene One

1. What is the first apparition and what does it say?
2. What is the second apparition and what does it tell Macbeth? Why does Macbeth feel he can ignore the first apparition's warning?
3. What is the third apparition? What does it tell Macbeth? Why does Macbeth feel he can dismiss this apparition as well?
4. What final question does Macbeth have for the witches? What do the witches show him?
5. What is ironic about Macbeth's line "Infected be the air whereon they ride, / And damned all those that trust them"?
6. To where has Macduff fled? What is Macbeth's solution to this new problem?

Scene Two

1. What is Macduff's wife's reaction to the news that Macduff has left her?
2. How does Ross justify Macduff's actions to his wife?
3. What does Lady Macduff tell her son about Macduff?
4. What does Macduff's son say about Lady Macduff?
5. Why doesn't Lady Macduff leave after she has been warned?

Scene Three

1. Why doesn't Malcolm initially trust Macduff?
2. What do Malcolm and Macduff now call Macbeth? What do they think about how Macbeth has been running the country?
3. How does Malcolm "test" Macduff's allegiance?
4. What kinds of things does Malcolm say he would do as king? List two.
5. Who has Malcolm joined forces with? What have they already done to go against Macbeth?
6. Describe what Edward the Confessor, King of England, has done for his people, according to Malcolm.
7. What news does Ross bring Macduff? What is Macduff's immediate reaction? What does he then realize?
8. What does Macduff vow to do at the end of this scene?