**Macbeth Study Guide with Answers**

**Act I Answers**

-The scene is filled with Witches, thunder and lightning, which creates a dark and sinister atmosphere.

-He calls them “withered” and “wild” in their attire; “That they look not like the inhabitants o’ the’ earth;” and that they “should be women...yet [their] beards forbid [him] to interpret that [they] are so.”

-Macbeth is a cold-blooded killer on the battlefield.

-The Witches are foul because they are evil. Macbeth and Banquo seem to be fair because of their loyalty and bravery. However, Macbeth reveals his plan to murder Duncan and his character is viewed differently. Lady Macbeth is foul. Macdonwald is foul because he is a traitor. The Captain and Duncan are fair because the Captain fought bravely and the King supports him and is compassionate regarding the Captain’s injury.

-The Witches are capable of creating situations that are evil and destructive. However, their powers are limited as they cannot destroy, but they have the power to create an atmosphere where destruction can easily occur.

-The Witches state that Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor and King. They go on to tell Banquo that his son’s will be kings.

-Lady Macbeth feels that Macbeth is kind and he may not be able to overcome his fears to kill Duncan. She fears his conscience will override his ambition to be King.

-Macbeth is torn between his ambition and his conscience. He gives several reasons why he should not kill Duncan: 1) Duncan is his cousin; 2) He is a loyal subject to the King; 3) Duncan is his friend; 4) Duncan has never abused his royal power; and 5) Duncan is a guest in his home. Based on these reasons, Macbeth decides not to follow through with the murder of Duncan.

-Lady Macbeth is questioning Macbeth why he has changed his mind about killing Duncan. She is asking him what has happened to his ambition.

Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth to follow through with the plan to murder Duncan. She calls him a coward and less than a man, prodding Macbeth to follow her plan. Macbeth agrees to murder Duncan that night.

**Act II Answers**

-He has had bad dreams about the Witches and part of what they said has come true. Macbeth says he has not thought about them. Banquo would like to discuss the matter with Macbeth.

-He sees a bloody dagger floating before him. He says that it is only a dream.

 -She was unable to kill Duncan because he looked like her father.

-He was upset and feeling guilt. He said that “it was a sorry sight.” He also stated that he had murdered sleep and he could not say amen when he needed to.

-Donalbain was sleeping. This puts suspicion on him.

-He cannot face the murder that he has committed. He feels too much guilt.

-Lennox said that there was a bad storm and he has never seen one this fierce in his life.

-Macduff discovers Duncan’s slain body.

-Macbeth says he murdered the guards because felt they killed Duncan. He was so angry and grief stricken he could not control his rage.

-Donalbain and Malcolm because they fear for their own lives. Donalbain goes to Ireland and Malcolm goes to England.

**ACT III Answers**

-Banquo says that Macbeth was made King, Thane of Cawdor and Thane of Glamis. He hopes his sons will be Kings.

-Macbeth fears for his own life if Banquo lives. Macbeth says that he and Banquo have the same friends and Macbeth would not be able to remain friends with them if he killed Banquo himself.

-Macbeth either feels that Lady Macbeth may try to talk him out the plot, or he wants to have full control and exclude her from this matter.

-Macbeth questions who has brought Banquo to the feast and he is very upset.

-Lady Macbeth tells them that he has suffered from this affliction his entire life and to ignore his behavior.

-Macbeth recognizes Banquo and says to the ghost that he should not blame him for the murder, “Thou canst not say I did it: never shake Thy gory locks at me.”

-Hecate is going to create a situation that will allow Macbeth to ruin himself. The Witches will make a magic potion that will guide Macbeth’s fate by telling him the future. Hecate says mortal men cannot resist knowing the future.

-Lennox says they have been unjustly accused of murder.

-Macduff has gone to England to join Malcolm’s forces to overthrow Macbeth.

-Lennox hopes that Scotland will be peaceful again.

**ACT IV Answers**

-The Witches are standing over a cauldron preparing a spell for Macbeth.

-The Apparitions say: 1) That Macbeth should beware of Macduff, 2) That no man born of a woman can harm Macbeth, and 3) Macbeth will not be harmed unless Great Birnam Wood comes to high Dunsinane.

-The Apparitions are dressed in such a way to give insight to Macbeth. He is blinded by his quest for power and does not recognize the significance of the appearance.

-He plans on going to England to kill Macduff.

-Lady Macduff feels her husband is scared and is a traitor.

-Lady Macduff tells her son his father is dead. Her son does not believe her.

-Lady Macduff and her son are murdered.

-Malcolm wants to know if Macduff is sincere and that he has not been sent by Macbeth.

-Malcolm is enraged by the news of Lady Macduff’s death. Macduff is in shock at first then he vows to seek revenge against Macbeth.

-Malcolm and Macduff plan on killing Macbeth and restoring the peace in Scotland.

**ACT V Answers**

-The Doctor says Lady Macbeth is very ill and he cannot cure her himself. Macbeth is angry and does not want to be bothered with this information.

-The Doctor is saying that Macbeth is trying to tell the doctor how to cure his patient, Lady Macbeth. When in fact Macbeth is the patient himself.

-The Messenger tells Macbeth that trees are moving toward the castle. Macbeth does not believe him at first; then, sounds the alarm for battle.

-Macduff vows to have revenge on Macbeth because of the death of his family.

-Malcolm’s army if committed to the cause of saving Scotland. Macbeth’s army is fighting for him out of fear they will be killed themselves.

-Macbeth kills Young Siward. Answers may vary on the response to the second part of the question. The importance of the murder is seen in Macbeth’s response after the murder. He states he cannot be killed by a man born of woman. He feels he cannot be harmed.

-Macbeth tells Macduff that he cannot be harmed by man born of woman. Macduff tells Macbeth that he was ripped from his mother’s womb. Macbeth realizes that the Witches have tricked him.

-Ross tells Siward that his son was killed in battle.

-Malcolm says that Macbeth is a “butcher” and Lady Macbeth was a “fiend-like queen”. He also says that Lady Macbeth took her own life.

-Malcolm plans to make the Thanes and kinsman Earls.