**Macbeth Act II Reading Notes**

**Scene 1**

Banquo and his son, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ walking the castle walls. Both make note of how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is and Banquo states he is not able to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They meet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Banquo notes that it’s odd that he is not in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Normally people sleep at night, right? Something strange is in the air. Banquo tells Macbeth that he’s dreamed of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but Macbeth states that he has not thought about them at all. Banquo and Fleance leave and Macbeth delivers his first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a long speech made alone on stage reflecting the speaker’s deepest thoughts. He sees a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ floating in front of him and can’t decide if it is pointing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or if it’s a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The bell rings signaling the assassination is at hand.

Quotes

There's husbandry in heaven; / Their candles are all out.

Is this a dagger which I see before me, / The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee.

Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell / That summons thee to heaven or to hell.

**Scene 2**

Lady Macbeth is waiting in her room talking boldly of the night’s work when an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ frightens her. She states that she would have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if Duncan hadn’t looked like her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Macbeth returns and reveals his feelings of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He couldn’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He says that he has murdered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and that he shall never \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ again. Lady Macbeth notices that he has screwed up by returning with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He tells her he can’t go back. Lady Macbeth returns them herself and returns covered in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There is a loud \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Lady Macbeth warns that they should get into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to avoid suspicion.

Quotes

Had he not resembled / My father as he slept, I had done't.

These deeds must not be thought / After these ways; so, it will make us mad.

My hands are of your colour; but I shame / To wear a heart so white.

Compare Macbeth’s final 2 lines in Act 2 Scene 1 and 2. How does his attitude change after the deed?

**Scene 3**

Comic relief. this scene begins with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pretending to be at the gates of Hell (he kind of is). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ enters to retrieve Duncan (dramatic irony!) Macbeth and Lennox talk about how it was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ night (dramatic irony!) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ returns revealing the horror he has seen. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ runs upstairs and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because he is “angry” (nice cover up?) Lady Macbeth enters and puts on a false face...she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The thanes regroup to determine a plan; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ decide to get out of Dodge.

Quotes

“and drink, sir, is a great / provoker of three things.” Define comic relief.

“ 'Twas a rough night.” (What does this quote remind you of?)

“O, yet I do repent me of my fury, / That I did kill them.”

“where we are, / There's daggers in men's smiles: the near in blood, / The nearer bloody.”

What theme is most developed in this scene? Why do you think that?

**Scene 4**

Ross and Macduff speak with an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who probably represents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They discuss the unusual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ since the King’s murder. Three things in particular...again with the 3’s?

1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It is suspectd that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are responsible for the murder and we learn that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is off to be crowned the new King at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Settting up a new conflict, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ says he will not attend. (foreshadowing).

What theme is most developed in this scene? Why do you think that?

What is the Great Chain of Being? How did Macbeth disrupt it?