

MACBETH ACT II QUESTIONS
BRITISH LIT
MRS. PILGREEN

Name _____

Date _____ Hour _____

CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION

1. Briefly summarize how Macbeth and Lady Macbeth conspire to murder Duncan.
2. What does the drunken Porter imagine he is doing?
3. What is the purpose of placing the Porter's scene immediately after the murder scene?
4. How is the murder discovered?
5. What actions does Macbeth take against the grooms (servants)?
6. Why do Malcolm and Donalbain appear suspicious, according to Macduff?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Compare and contrast Macbeth's reaction to the murder with Lady Macbeth's:
 - a. Macbeth's reaction:
 - b. Lady Macbeth's reaction:
2. What causes Lady Macbeth to faint?
3. Why does Ross have doubts about accepting the grooms as murderers?
4. In his soliloquy in Scene i, Macbeth speaks of "vaulting ambition."
 - a. How can "vaulting ambition" result in great success?
 - b. How can it result in destruction?

5. Could an assassination like this happen in our times? Why or why not?

LITERARY FOCUS: BLANK VERSE

Scan the following lines of blank verse (Mark the stressed syllables with a / and the unstressed syllables with a ∪).

Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood

Clean from my hand? No; this my hand will rather

The multitudinous seas incarnadine,

Making the green one red.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

Choose the letter of the word that is the **antonym** of the first word.

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|------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. augment | a. add | b. reduce | c. move |
| 2. palpable | a. obvious | b. impolite | c. imperceptible |
| 3. stealthy | a. reputable | b. sneaky | c. open |
| 4. multitudinous | a. scarce | b. agitated | c. ample |
| 5. equivocate | a. falsify | b. declare | c. ruin |
| 6. predominance | a. equality | b. superiority | c. inferiority |