

KS4 Autumn 1 Powerful Knowledge**ENGLISH**

#	Question	Topic	Vocabulary
1	‘Macbeth’ was written by William Shakespeare in which era?	Context	‘Era’ means time period.
2	Shakespeare wrote ‘Macbeth’ just one year after a famous assassination attempt on the life King James I. What was this called and what year did it happen?	Context	‘Assassination’ means murder.
3	King James I’s hatred of witchcraft is well-documented. What is the name of the text he wrote that proves this?	Context	‘Well-documented’ means there is lots of evidence.
4	Explain what is meant by ‘The Divine Right of Kings’.	Context	
5	What is the Great Chain of Being?	Context	
6	What is the first line Macbeth speaks in the play, and why is it significant?	Quotations	‘Significant’ means important.
7	What does Lady Macbeth tell her husband to do in order to conceal their evil intentions?	Quotations	‘Conceal’ means hide.
8	After he commits regicide, what word does Macbeth say “stuck in [his] throat”?	Quotations	‘Regicide’ means killing the monarch.
9	What does Macduff compare the sight of Duncan’s body to, and what does this suggest?	Quotations	
10	At the end of the text, how does Malcolm describe Macbeth and Lady Macbeth?	Quotations	
11	What is a soliloquy?	Devices	
12	What is foreshadowing?	Devices	
13	Define symbolism.	Devices	‘Define’ means describe.
14	What is a literary foil?	Devices	
15	What is a tragic hero?	Devices	
16	The witches equivocate to lead Macbeth to his downfall. What does ‘equivocate’ mean?	Key vocabulary	
17	Lady Macbeth emasculate her husband. What does ‘emasculates’ mean?	Key vocabulary	
18	Lady Macbeth is a subversive character. What does ‘subversive’ mean?	Key vocabulary	
19	Shakespeare lived in a patriarchal society. What does ‘patriarchal’ mean?	Key vocabulary	
20	In the play, the characters are expected to operate within a strict hierarchy. What does ‘hierarchy’ mean?	Key vocabulary	
21	In the beginning of the play, Macbeth ‘unseamed’ his enemy “from the nave to the chops”. What does this verb suggest?	Analysis	
22	Macbeth describes his desires as ‘black and deep’. What can you infer from these adjectives?	Analysis	
23	After killing Duncan, Macbeth tells his wife ‘full of scorpions is my mind’. What device has been used and to what effect?	Analysis	
24	Tormented by guilt, Lady Macbeth says “All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand”. Explain the meaning and effect of this quotation.	Analysis	
25	Macbeth is repeatedly referred to as a ‘tyrant’. What can you infer from this?	Analysis	

#	Answer	Vocabulary
1	Shakespeare wrote 'Macbeth' during the Jacobean era .	'Jacobean' means during the reign of King James I.
2	Shakespeare wrote 'Macbeth' just one year after The Gunpowder Plot, a Catholic conspiracy to blow up the Houses of Parliament while the king was present in 1605 .	'Conspiracy' means secret scheme.
3	King James I's hatred of witchcraft is evident in a text he wrote called ' Daemonologie '.	
4	The Divine Right of Kings is the belief that the monarch derives their power/authority directly from God .	'Monarch' means king/queen.
5	The Great Chain of Being refers to the hierarchy, dictated by God, in which all matter and life is organised .	'Dictated' means stated with authority.
6	Macbeth's first line is " So fair and foul a day I have not seen ", which immediately links him to the witches, who say " Fair is foul and foul is fair ".	
7	Lady Macbeth tells her husband " Look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under it ".	
8	Macbeth says " Amen " stuck in his throat; this signifies that his relationship with God has been destroyed beyond repair .	
9	Macduff compares the sight of Duncan's body to " a new Gorgon "; Gorgons are monsters from Greek mythology who have the power to turn men to stone .	
10	At the end of the text, Malcolm describes Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as a " dead butcher and his fiend-like queen ".	
11	A soliloquy is a speech in which a character reveals their thoughts as though no one else can hear them .	
12	Foreshadowing is a warning of a future event/a clue as to what will happen later .	
13	Symbolism is when a person, object, image or colour represents a deeper meaning beyond its literal definition .	
14	A literary foil is a character who provides strong contrast to another character in order to highlight specific traits .	
15	A tragic hero is a character who is good and virtuous at the beginning of the text, but who experiences a downfall due to their hamartia .	'Hamartia' means fatal flaw.
16	'Equivocate' means to use ambiguous language to conceal the truth .	'Ambiguous' means having more than one meaning.
17	'Emasculate' means to deprive a man of his masculine role/identity .	
18	'Subversive' means undermining/going against the norm .	
19	Patriarchal describes a society controlled by men, in which women are typically excluded from positions of power .	
20	A 'hierarchy' is a system of organising things, often according to status or authority .	
21	The verb 'unseamed' suggests that Macbeth is splitting his enemy open; it creates violent imagery of Macbeth as a violent and powerfully destructive warrior .	
22	The adjectives 'black' and 'deep' reveal that Macbeth is experiencing immoral, shameful thoughts/wishes .	
23	When Macbeth says his mind is " full of scorpions ", Shakespeare has used a metaphor to emphasise his anxiety and paranoia .	
24	This line reveals that Lady Macbeth is tormented by guilt over her role in Duncan's murder . She, like Macbeth, is experiencing hallucinations . Bloody hands are a recurring motif in the play.	
25	The noun 'tyrant' means Macbeth is a corrupt ruler who abuses their power .	