

Mock Exam Handbook

English Literature

Mr Wise

1 hour and 45 minutes

Macbeth

AQA Power and Conflict Poetry

Macbeth

Ambition

Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 5 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play, Lady Macbeth is speaking. She has just read Macbeth's letter telling her about his meeting with the three witches.

LADY MACBETH

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor, and shalt be
What thou art promised; yet do I fear thy nature,
It is too full o'th'milk of human kindness
To catch the nearest way. Thou wouldst be great,
5 Art not without ambition, but without
The illness should attend it. What thou wouldst highly,
That wouldst thou holily; wouldst not play false,
And yet wouldst wrongly win. Thou'dst have, great Glamis,
That which cries, 'Thus thou must do' if thou have it;
10 And that which rather thou dost fear to do,
Than wishest should be undone. Hie thee hither,
That I may pour my spirits in thine ear
And chastise with the valour of my tongue
All that impedes thee from the golden round,
15 Which fate and metaphysical aid doth seem
To have thee crowned withal.

Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents ambition in *Macbeth*.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents ambition in this speech
- how Shakespeare presents ambition in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

1. **Read** the question and **highlight** the area of focus (i.e. *ambition*)
2. **Highlight** two aspects of the extract you want to focus on and make brief **annotations**
3. **Choose** three other scenes and make a list of **comparison** points (e.g. A2-S2, A3-S4, A5-S1...)
4. **Follow** the writing frame on page four

Ambition	A1-S5
	A2-S2
	A3-S4
	A5-S1

A1-S5 x 2

What idea does Shakespeare present about ambition?

Shakespeare presents ambition as...

How is it presented?

Shakespeare uses...

This is important because...

It is also significant because...

Why is it presented in that way?

Shakespeare warns the audience about...



A2-S2

What idea is presented and **what** is the link?

Shakespeare presents the damaging effects of ambition in...

How is it presented?

Shakespeare uses the blood on Macbeth's hands to show...

This is important because...

It is also significant that...

Why is it presented in that way and **what** is the link?

Shakespeare highlights that the murder of a monarch is...



Repeat for A3-S4 and A5-S1

<p>What?</p>	<p>Initially, Macbeth...</p> <p>Later, Macbeth...</p> <p>Furthermore, Lady Macbeth...</p> <p>Crucially, Macbeth...</p> <p>Contrastingly, Banquo...</p> <p>Despite Macbeth's initial scepticism about the prophecies...</p> <p>Although Macbeth outwardly expresses happiness at the news that Malcolm will become the Prince of Cumberland...</p> <p>Banquo is repulsed by the appearance of the Witches, but also...</p> <p>Lady Macbeth understands that Macbeth is ambitious, but also...</p> <p>At the start of the scene...</p> <p>As the scene develops...</p> <p>At the end of the scene...</p> <p>The 'wither'd' and 'wild' physical appearance of the Witches is significant because...</p> <p>Banquo's observation that Macbeth is 'rapt withal' is important because...</p> <p>Macbeth's belief that Duncan's death is a 'horrid image' is relevant because...</p> <p>Macbeth concedes that the Witches are 'imperfect' speakers, but...</p> <p>Macbeth declares his loyalty to Duncan, but...</p>
<p>How?</p>	<p>An important word / image / technique...</p> <p>The stormy weather at the beginning of the play creates...</p> <p>The way in which Macbeth demands to hear more from the Witches shows...</p>
<p>Why?</p>	<p>The play emphasises...</p> <p>James I, who first published Daemonologie in 1597, believed that...</p> <p>The play, first performed in 1606, explores...</p> <p>Lady Macbeth, immediately after reading the letter from Macbeth, expresses concern that...</p> <p>Macbeth's fatal flaw, also known as his hamartia, is revealed when...</p> <p>The purpose of the aside...</p> <p>The purpose of dialogue...</p> <p>The purpose of the scene...</p> <p>The purpose of Banquo's warning...</p> <p>The purpose of the soliloquy...</p>

AQA Power and Conflict Poetry

Effects of Conflict

Compare how poets present the effects of conflict on people in 'Poppies' and in one other poem from 'Power and conflict'.

Poppies

Three days before Armistice Sunday
and poppies had already been placed
on individual war graves. Before you left,
I pinned one onto your lapel, crimped petals,
5 spasms of paper red, disrupting a blockade
of yellow bias binding around your blazer.

Sellotape bandaged around my hand,
I rounded up as many white cat hairs
as I could, smoothed down your shirt's
10 upturned collar, steeled the softening
of my face. I wanted to graze my nose
across the tip of your nose, play at
being Eskimos like we did when
you were little. I resisted the impulse
15 to run my fingers through the gelled
blackthorns of your hair. All my words
flattened, rolled, turned into felt,

slowly melting. I was brave, as I walked
with you, to the front door, threw
20 it open, the world overflowing
like a treasure chest. A split second
and you were away, intoxicated.
After you'd gone I went into your bedroom,
released a song bird from its cage.
25 Later a single dove flew from the pear tree,
and this is where it has led me,
skirting the church yard walls, my stomach busy
making tucks, darts, pleats, hat-less, without
a winter coat or reinforcements of scarf, gloves.

30 On reaching the top of the hill I traced
the inscriptions on the war memorial,
leaned against it like a wishbone.
The dove pulled freely against the sky,
An ornamental stitch. I listened, hoping to hear
35 your playground voice catching the wind.

Jane Weir

[30 marks]

1. **Read** the question and **highlight** the area of focus (i.e. *the effects of conflict on people*)
2. **Highlight** three aspects of the poem that you want to focus on and make brief **annotations**
3. **Choose** one other poem and make a list of **comparison** points (e.g. Exposure, Remains...)
4. **Follow** the writing frame on page two

Effects of Conflict	
Poppies	Remains

Poppies

What is the effect of conflict?

How is it presented?

Why is it presented in that way?

Weir presents the effects of conflict as...

Weir uses...

This is important because...

It is also significant because...

Weir challenges the reader to...

↓

Remains

What is the effect of conflict and what is the link?

How is it presented?

Why is it presented in that way and what is the link?

Armitage provides a different perspective on...

Armitage repeats the line...

This is important because...

It is also significant because...

Armitage wanted to...

↓

Repeat...

<p>What?</p>	<p>Initially, the poet...</p> <p>Later, the poet...</p> <p>Furthermore, the poet...</p> <p>Crucially, the poet...</p> <p>Contrastingly, the poet...</p> <p>Despite suggesting that...</p> <p>Although the poet uses the image...</p> <p>At the start of the poem...</p> <p>As the poem develops...</p> <p>At the end of the poem...</p>
<p>How?</p>	<p>The word / phrase / line / image ' _____ ' is significant because...</p> <p>The poet's observation / view / statement that ' _____ ' is relevant because...</p> <p>The purpose / message of the poem is important because...</p> <p>The poet invites / encourages / challenges / the reader to ' _____ ', but...</p> <p>The poet suggests / conveys / states / highlights _____, but...</p> <p>An important word is...</p> <p>An important image is...</p> <p>An important technique is...</p> <p>An important moment is...</p> <p>An important contextual factor is...</p> <p>The word / image / technique ' _____ ' implies...</p> <p>The word / image / technique image ' _____ ' reflects...</p> <p>The word / image / technique ' _____ ' emphasises...</p>
<p>Why?</p>	<p>The purpose of the poem is...</p> <p>The message of the poem is...</p> <p>The purpose of the stanza is...</p> <p>The purpose of the rhyme scheme is...</p> <p>The purpose of the form is...</p>



Sparknotes on Macbeth



British Library articles on Macbeth



BBC Bitesize resources on Macbeth



PMT notes on Macbeth



PMT Notes on the Power and Conflict poems



Wider reading booklet on Power and Conflict poems