**Section** **A**

*At* *Macbeth’s* *castle.* *Macbeth* *meets* *Banquo* *and* *his* *son,* *Fleance.*

1 What clues are there at the beginning of this scene to indicate that the castle is in darkness? (3 points needed)

2 What is Banquo’s state of mind at the beginning of this scene?

3 How do we know Banquo is nervous?

4 What information does Banquo give Macbeth about the King’s visit?

5 How are the audience reminded of Lady Macbeth in this scene?

6 What is the effect of Banquo’s frank statement: ‘I dreamt last night of the three Weird Sisters’?

7 How does Macbeth respond to Banquo’s comment about the witches and what does this show us about him?

8 How does Macbeth try to test Banquo’s loyalty to him?

9 How does Banquo respond to Macbeth?

10 What is the dramatic effect of the conversation between Banquo and Macbeth on stage?

**MACBETH** **Act** **2,** **Scene** **1**

**Section** **B**

*Macbeth* *sees* *a* *vision* *of* *a* *dagger* *with* *the* *handle* *pointing* *towards* *him.*

1. Draw a chart in your exercise book like the one below. Add each statement to the left column. Then find and write out the quotation from the play that matches it.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Statement** | **Quotation** **from** **the** **play** **to** **support** **this** **statement** |
| a. In his desperately nervous state, he imagines a dagger floating before him. |  |

b. He reaches out for it, wondering if it is real or an hallucination. c. It seems to be leading him to the King’s presence.

d. Blood appears on it.

e. Macbeth tries to dismiss it, realising he is overwrought. f. He becomes of the dark, silent world around him.

g. Nature and natural feeling seem dead.

h. It is a time of false and wicked dreams, of witchcraft, murder, wolves and rape. i. Macbeth begs the earth not to hear his footsteps, for the sound may give him

away.

j. Silence best suits what he has to do, but such talk cools the ardour of action.

2 Why do you think Macbeth decides to go and commit the murder? Choose one reason below and explain the reasons for your answer:

· he really is an evil man.

· he is so mixed up he cannot sort out the difference between right and wrong. · he is under the power of the witches

· he does not really know what he is doing · he is acting on the spur of the moment