

For each quote below, summarize it in your own words (including who was speaking) and then explain the context of the quote. Next tell how and why it is important to the play as a whole (does it connect to a theme, specific literary device, etc.). Finally, answer the questions which follow each quote.

1. "A heavy summons lies like lead upon me . . . gives way to repose!" (II:i) What do you think is the cause of Banquo's unease?
2. "I go, and it is done." (II:i) The bell, dagger and upcoming door knock are significant devices in the play. What do they do? How do they function and add to the play?
3. "These deeds must not be thought / After these ways -- so, it will make us mad." (II:ii) Lady Macbeth both chides and mollifies Macbeth here. How much does she understand his state of mind? Do you think she would not have been able to kill Duncan herself?
4. "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." (II:ii). Explain the image and the metaphor in these lines.
5. "Confusion now hath made his masterpiece! . . . The life o' the building!" (II:iii) Compare Macduff's eloquence and use of metaphorical language here to Macbeth later in the scene. How do they use language? For what purpose? What does this comparison reveal?

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