

GCSE English
5EH2F/01

Macbeth
Foundation Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at www.edexcel.com

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

Section A

(a) From the extract, what do you learn about the character of Duncan?

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

Script 1 response to part a)

Band 2 – 5 marks

doesn't use correct adjective, but gives evidence to support the point, and an explanation, so the meaning is clearly understood (7)

(a) In this extract you learn that Duncan is very complimentary, he says "Noble Barquo". This shows even tho he is king, he still shows people below his status respect and care, this also shows that he is respected by his people.

In this extract Duncan is also guilty, this is shown when talking to Macbeth "The sin of my ingatitude even now was heavy on me". This shows the reader when he holds back from retelling a person something, it eats him up till he does which shows he cant hold his guilt enough to get on in life.

In the extract it is shown he is also very joyfull, 'uly plenteous joys,' this shows, the even tho he has to rule Scotland, he can have fun and be happy around others and not violent.

(Section A continued) Like other kings could be.

relevant supported point with explanation

relevant supported point with less secure explanation

Examiner summary:

The first part of this response is strongest, with references to Duncan giving compliments and showing respect. The second paragraph has some validity too, but the third is weaker. On balance, this answer shows some understanding of the character

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some understanding of the character.• Some reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to maintain the quality of the opening paragraph throughout the response, and give more secure interpretations of the character as shown in the extract.

Script 2 response to part a)

Band 2 – 5 marks

relevant supported point with explanation

The character of Duncan in Act 1 Scene 4 is kind hearted and even though not everyone has a bible he still treats them with well mannered manners. "O worthless cousin" suggest to the reader that, Duncan is greeting Macbeth and treating him with respect as he has just fought a long and hard battle against the Norwegians. When he greet greets Banquo he says "Oth Noble Banquo" this implies that he has showed his gratitude to Banquo in a different way compared to the way he did to Macbeth. Duncan says "sons Rinsmen, dories and whose places are nearest" this suggest that he is talking to everyone in a polite manner he is also very grateful in what his soldiers have done. Duncan is a very loyal King even though he didn't fight in the battle against the Norwegians he still serves and protects his country.

Further development of the first point

reference to the extract with interpretation of the character

relevant points but unsupported

Examiner summary:

'well-mannered', 'respect', 'gratitude', 'polite', 'grateful' and 'loyal'. All the points have some validity, but overall the response stays in band 2. There is repetition of 'grateful' as an explanation for the examples provided, and the candidate does not really get to the root of Duncan's character in the extract.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some understanding of the character.• Some reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to more accurately reflect the character in the extract.

Part B

(b) Using your understanding of the extract, explain how the following lines might be performed

(7)

Duncan

Welcome hither!

**I have begun to plant thee, and will labour,
To make thee full of growing. – Noble Banquo,
That hast no less deserved, nor must be known
No less to have done so – let me enfold thee,
And hold thee to my heart.**

Banquo

There if I grow,

The harvest is your own.

You may consider the following in your answer:

- actions
- positioning
- movement
- voice
- gesture
- facial expression.

Script 1 response to part b)

Band 2 – 3 marks

Reference to specific lines, with valid gestures and stage directions

(b) The line 'welcome hither!' would be performed with Duncan looking at Banquo with his hands in the air (like he is about to hug Banquo), his positioning would be the opposite side to Banquo. Duncan would be skipping towards Banquo out of excitement. His voice would be like a kids on Christmas day, filled with excitement and joy, and his facial expressions would be his face lifted up with a big smile. This would be maintained till the line's 'let me unfold these, and hold these to my heart.' where Duncan would have his hand on Banquo's shoulder while positioned in front of Banquo, he would be stood still, with a more calmed voice and small smile where as Banquo when he performs his line 'There if I grow, The harvest is your own' his actions would be him holding Duncan's shoulder, positioned in front and with no movement, and a slight smile with a calm voice toward Duncan.

Valid suggested performance features, without specific textual reference

Reference to specific lines, with valid gestures and stage directions and voice

Reference to specific lines, with valid gestures and stage directions and voice

Examiner summary:

This response gives lots of suggested performance features, including stage directions, voice, gestures and actions, often with direct reference to the extract. There is no reference to why any of these features might be used though with only some implied understanding of how the performance of these lines might support characterisation or the relationship between Duncan and Banquo.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Occasional understanding of effectiveness of performance techniques• Some reference to the lines from the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to make reference to the reasons for the selected performance features, to demonstrate an understanding of why they would be effective.

Script 2 response to part b)

Band 2 – 5 marks

Valid suggested performance features, with some specific textual reference and explanation

When Duncan speaks he should be in Centre Stage, moving a little from left to right using his hands to put more power into his speech. His voice should be loud but friendly with a jocular smile and his face showing smiles of joy. The words "let me enfold thee and hold thee to my heart" should be emphasised as Duncan is showing love towards Banquo as a way of saying thank you for what you've done.

Valid suggested performance features throughout this paragraph with a little textual reference

During Banquo's speech he should be on the right of Duncan looking up at him with his hand together smiling as his voice should be friendly as well as he is looking to the King. Not much movement should be used as his lines are short and he doesn't have much time to do anything and emphasis should be used on the word "your own" as Banquo is showing the importance of something to the King. Banquo should be smiling all the time and shake nod his head to show that he is listening to what is being said.

Examiner summary:

This response (as with the candidate's part (a) response above) tends to focus on the positive aspect of the scene e.g. 'as Duncan is showing love towards Banquo...'. There is an attempt to offer and explanation of why a particular technique would be effective 'as a

way of saying thank you..’ There is enough to show some occasional understanding of the performance techniques.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Occasional understanding of effectiveness of performance techniques• Some reference to the lines from the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to demonstrate a better understanding of the full meaning of the extract, and include more explanations of why the suggested features would be effective.

Part C

In the extract, we are aware of Cawdor's betrayal.

Comment on the importance of betrayal in **one other** part of the play.

(10)

Script 1 response to part c)

Reference to
'one other
part' of the
play

Band 2 – 7 marks

(Section A continued) (C) In another part of the play you see Macbeth betray Banquo by sending hired thugs to kill him and his son, as part of a plan. The reader is able to know this is a set as Macbeth had invited him to the party that evening and had known Banquo's routine of the day, so the hired thugs could ambush them. You know Macbeth was betraying Banquo as they were best friends and that as he could not trust Banquo as he had suspicions on who killed Duncan, which led into Macbeth ~~start~~ starting to lose his mind. And because of this betrayal it lead to Macbeth hiring more grooms to do his dirty work which lead him to becoming insane.

Details of the betrayal in the selected part

Comment on the effects of the betrayal

Examiner summary:

This response includes some details of the assassination scene and offers some motivations for the betrayal of Banquo 'he could not trust Banquo'. Also offers some comment on the importance of the betrayal in terms of Macbeth's behaviour and character 'lose his mind', 'become insane'.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	4-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some understanding of theme and its importance• Some reference to one other part of the play to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to offer more explicit reference to the importance of betrayal in the selected scene, with more detail.

Reference to
'one other
part' of the
play

Script 2 response to part c)

Band 3 – 9 marks

in another part of the play Macbeth betrays
Duncan as he kills the King. He does this
as he goes along with the witches prophecies.
(Thane of Cawdor gives and King) he already has
two of them without having to do anything. So
why should he have to do anything to get the
third. Before the murder of Duncan Macbeth is
not sure about it. This is where Lady Macbeth manipulates
him into doing it. "if you were a man you would do it"
So this suggests that Lady Macbeth is questioning
Macbeth's authority as a man but Macbeth is ambitious
as a soldier and doesn't want to let himself
down as he kills the King he starts to
realise. Just like he did before the killing but
he betrayed not just the King nor himself he
betrayed the whole country and yet he still get
to become King. This is because no one
understands it was Macbeth at this point but
even the Thane of Cawdor had betrayed his
country. The original Thane betrayed his King
during the battle against the Norwegians by
giving the private battle plans and was later
killed for what he had done but what
Macbeth had done was more serious.

Details of
the
theme of
betrayal,
with a
direct
quotation

Explanation
of the
importance
of betrayal
with
reference to
different
levels of
betrayal

Importance
of the
identified
betrayal
within the
wider play

(Section A continued) And to protect himself and to stay
as my Macbeth starts to kill people that
could be a threat towards him he kills
Banquo Macduff and his family as well

Explanation
of the effects
of the
betrayal

Examiner summary:

The candidate identifies another part of the play and there is a link to the prophecies and then some good details about what happened prior to Duncan's murder and Lady Macbeth's input. Also there is recognition of Macbeth's ambition, a comparison with the original Thane of Cawdor and then the candidate mentions another significance of the betrayal: Macbeth's further killings. Overall, this answer has some good details about one other part of the play and also deals with the importance of the theme. It is therefore placed firmly in Band 3.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of theme and its importance• Clear reference to one other part of the play to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response could focus slightly more precisely on the theme within the selected extract.