

## Homework Scaffolding Tool: *Macbeth* Act 3.5 and 3.6

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| <b>Name:</b> |  | <b>Class:</b> |  | <b>Date:</b> |  |
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**Directions:** Read the scene in the first column. Answer the questions in the second column. Consult the third column and the explanatory notes in your text for vocabulary and other assistance. Consider listening to this free online recording of *Macbeth* as you read Act 3: <http://www.wiredforbooks.org/mp3> (19:07–21:19).

| Text: Act 3.5  | Questions   | Vocabulary   |
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| <p><i>Thunder. Enter the three Witches, meeting Hecate.</i></p> <p><b>First Witch</b><br/>Why, how now, Hecate? You look angrily.</p> <p><b>Hecate</b><br/>Have I not reason, beldams as you are?<br/>Saucy and overbold, how did you dare<br/>To trade and traffic with Macbeth<br/>In riddles and affairs of death, 5<br/>And I, the mistress of your charms,<br/>The close contriver of all harms,<br/>Was never called to bear my part<br/>Or show the glory of our art?<br/>And which is worse, all you have done 10<br/>Hath been but for a wayward son,<br/>Spiteful and wrathful, who, as others do,<br/>Loves for his own ends, not for you.<br/>But make amends now. Get you gone,<br/>And at the pit of Acheron 15<br/>Meet me i' th' morning. Thither he<br/>Will come to know his destiny.<br/>Your vessels and your spells provide,<br/>Your charms and everything beside.<br/>I am for th' air. This night I'll spend 20<br/>Unto a dismal and a fatal end.<br/>Great business must be wrought ere noon.<br/>Upon the corner of the moon<br/>There hangs a vap'rous drop profound.<br/>I'll catch it ere it come to ground, 25<br/>And that, distilled by magic sleights,<br/>Shall raise such artificial sprites<br/>As by the strength of their illusion<br/>Shall draw him on to his confusion.<br/>He shall spurn fate, scorn death, and bear 30<br/>His hopes 'bove wisdom, grace, and fear.</p> | <p><b>Why is Hecate angry (lines 3–13)?</b></p> <p><b>How does Hecate describe Macbeth (lines 11–13)?</b></p> <p><b>Which of Macbeth's previous actions confirm Hecate's description?</b></p> <p><b>What will happen to Macbeth "i' th' morning" (lines 16–17)?</b></p> | <p><i>contriver</i> (n.) – one who plans, forms designs</p> <p><i>fatal</i> (adj.) – causing or capable of causing death</p> |

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| <p>And you all know, security<br/>Is mortals’ chiefest enemy.<br/>Music and a song.<br/>Hark! I am called. My little spirit, see,<br/>Sits in a foggy cloud and stays for me.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>「<i>Hecate exits.</i>」<br/><i>Sing within “Come away, come away,” etc.</i></p> <p><b>First Witch</b><br/>Come, let’s make haste. She’ll soon be back again.<br/><i>They exit.</i></p> | <p><b>What is Hecate planning to do to Macbeth (lines 24–32)?</b></p> <p><b>What is mortals’ biggest enemy (lines 32–33)?</b></p> |  |
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| Text: Act 3.6   | Questions  | Vocabulary  |
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| <p><i>Enter Lennox and another Lord.</i></p> <p><b>Lennox</b><br/>                     My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,<br/>                     Which can interpret farther. Only I say<br/>                     Things have been strangely borne. The gracious<br/>                     Duncan<br/>                     Was pitied of Macbeth; marry, he was dead. 5<br/>                     And the right valiant Banquo walked too late,<br/>                     Whom you may say, if 't please you, Fleance killed,<br/>                     For Fleance fled. Men must not walk too late.<br/>                     Who cannot want the thought how monstrous<br/>                     It was for Malcolm and for Donalbain 10<br/>                     To kill their gracious father? Damnèd fact,<br/>                     How it did grieve Macbeth! Did he not straight<br/>                     In pious rage the two delinquents tear<br/>                     That were the slaves of drink and thralls of sleep?<br/>                     Was not that nobly done? Ay, and wisely, too, 15<br/>                     For 'twould have angered any heart alive<br/>                     To hear the men deny 't. So that I say<br/>                     He has borne all things well. And I do think<br/>                     That had he Duncan's sons under his key<br/>                     (As, an 't please heaven, he shall not) they should 20<br/>                     find<br/>                     What 'twere to kill a father. So should Fleance.<br/>                     But peace. For from broad words, and 'cause he<br/>                     failed<br/>                     His presence at the tyrant's feast, I hear 25<br/>                     Macduff lives in disgrace. Sir, can you tell<br/>                     Where he bestows himself?</p> <p><b>Lord</b><br/>                     The "son" of Duncan<br/>                     (From whom this tyrant holds the due of birth)<br/>                     Lives in the English court and is received 30<br/>                     Of the most pious Edward with such grace<br/>                     That the malevolence of fortune nothing<br/>                     Takes from his high respect. Thither Macduff<br/>                     Is gone to pray the holy king upon his aid<br/>                     To wake Northumberland and warlike Siward 35<br/>                     That, by the help of these (with Him above<br/>                     To ratify the work), we may again<br/>                     Give to our tables meat, sleep to our nights,<br/>                     Free from our feasts and banquets bloody knives,<br/>                     Do faithful homage, and receive free honors, 40<br/>                     All which we pine for now. And this report</p> | <p><b>What "things" that "have been strangely borne" does Lennox describe (lines 3–25)?</b></p> <p><b>Why does Lennox link Fleance's running away to evidence for his killing his father (lines 6–8)?</b></p> <p><b>According to Lennox who else has been accused of killing their father (lines 9–18)?</b></p> <p><b>How does Lennox describe Macbeth's act of killing Duncan's guards (line 15)? What is the implication of this description (lines 16–17)?</b></p> <p><b>Why does Lennox connect Banquo's murder with Duncan's murder? Whom does he really think killed both men?</b></p> <p><b>Who is "the tyrant" (line 25)?</b></p> <p><b>Why does Macduff live in disgrace (lines 23–26)?</b></p> | <p><i>borne</i> (v.) – brought forth; given birth to</p> <p><i>marry</i> (oath) – a mild oath or curse word</p> <p><i>tyrant</i> (n.) – a ruler who uses power oppressively or unjustly</p> |

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| <p>Hath so exasperate <b>the</b> King that he Prepares for some attempt of war.</p> <p><b>Lennox</b><br/>Sent he to Macduff?</p> <p><b>Lord</b><br/>He did, and with an absolute “Sir, not I,”<br/>The cloudy messenger turns me his back<br/>And hums, as who should say “You’ll rue the time<br/>That clogs me with this answer.”</p> <p><b>Lennox</b> And that well might<br/>Advise him to a caution <b>t’ hold</b> what distance<br/>His wisdom can provide. Some holy angel<br/>Fly to the court of England and unfold<br/>His message ere he come, that a swift blessing<br/>May soon return to this our suffering country<br/>Under a hand accursed.</p> <p><b>Lord</b> I’ll send my prayers with him.<br/><i>They exit.</i></p> | <p><b>According to the Lord, what has “the tyrant” stolen (line 29)?</b></p> <p><b>Where has Macduff gone (lines 28–34)? Why has he gone there (lines 34–41)?</b></p> <p><b>What is Macbeth planning (lines 41–43)?</b></p> <p><b>What does Lennox hope will happen (lines 53–54)?</b></p> | <p>Lines 45–46:<br/>Macduff answered Macbeth’s order to appear with a definite, “Sir, not I.” Macduff turns his back on him, humming and not listening. “Turns me his back,” means he rudely dismisses him</p> <p><i>rue</i> (v.) – to feel sorrow over; to regret</p> |
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