

## Soliloquy Jigsaw Tool for Act 1.5

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Class:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
<p><b>Directions:</b> Form home groups of four to reread Lady Macbeth’s soliloquies in Act 1.5 (Soliloquy 1: lines 15–33, from “Glamis thou art, and Cawdor” to “To have thee crowned withal” and Soliloquy 2: lines 45–61, from “The raven himself is hoarse” to “To cry ‘Hold! Hold!’”).</p> <p>Form a pair with someone in your home group and answer one of the following sets of questions on a separate sheet of paper. When you have finished, share your responses with the other pair from your home group.</p>					
<p><b>Soliloquy 1:</b> Lines 15–33 (from “Glamis thou art, and Cawdor” to “To have thee crowned withal”)</p>					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What does Lady Macbeth believe has been “promised” to her husband?</li> <li>2. What does Lady Macbeth “fear” in her husband’s nature?</li> <li>3. According to Lady Macbeth, what qualities does Macbeth have that might help him achieve his goal?</li> <li>4. What can you infer about Lady Macbeth based on her description of Macbeth?</li> <li>5. Whom is Lady Macbeth addressing when she says, “Hie thee hither”?</li> <li>6. How does Lady Macbeth’s plan to “pour [her] spirits in [Macbeth’s] ear” and to “chastise [Macbeth] with the valor of [her] tongue” develop her character?</li> </ol>					
<p><b>Soliloquy 2:</b> Lines 45–61 (from “The raven himself is hoarse” to “To cry ‘Hold! Hold!’”)</p>					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do the stage directions before line 45 help explain to whom Lady Macbeth is speaking these lines?</li> <li>2. What qualities does Lady Macbeth ask the spirits to remove?</li> <li>3. For what quality does Lady Macbeth ask?</li> <li>4. How does Lady Macbeth’s request that the spirits “come to [her] woman’s breasts / And take [her] milk for gall” develop her thoughts about Macbeth in lines 16–19 (“Yet do I fear thy nature; / It is too full o’ th’ milk of human kindness / To catch the nearest way”)?</li> <li>5. What does Lady Macbeth’s request for night to come reveal about Lady Macbeth and her plans?</li> <li>6. How does Lady Macbeth’s description of night, “pall[ed] in the dunnest smoke of hell,” impact the meaning and mood of this passage?</li> </ol>					
<p><b>Vocabulary:</b> Some words are defined below. Refer to the explanatory notes in the text for additional support.</p>					
<b>Soliloquy 1</b>			<b>Soliloquy 2</b>		
hie (v.) – to cause (oneself) to go quickly hither (adv.) – to or toward this place impedes (v.) – slows the movement, progress or action of (someone or something) chastise (v.) – rubric; inflict punishment on metaphysical (adj.) – supernatural			direst (adj.) – most extreme pall (v.) – to cover with a cloth for spreading over a coffin keen (adj.) – having a sharp edge or point compunctious (adj.) – remorseful; full of regret gall (n.) – bitter liquid secreted by the liver and associated with choler or anger		

## Model Soliloquy Jigsaw Tool for Act 1.5

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**Directions:** Form home groups of four to reread Lady Macbeth’s soliloquies in Act 1.5 (Soliloquy 1: lines 15–33, from “Glamis thou art, and Cawdor” to “To have thee crowned withal” and Soliloquy 2: lines 45–61, from “The raven himself is hoarse” to “To cry ‘Hold! Hold!’”).

Form a pair with someone from your home group, answer one of the following sets of questions on a separate sheet of paper. When you have finished, share your responses with the other pair from your home group.

**Soliloquy 1:** Lines 15–33 (from “Glamis thou art, and Cawdor” to “To have thee crowned withal”)

**1. What does Lady Macbeth believe has been “promised” to her husband?**

- She believes the Witches have promised that in addition to being Thane of Glamis and Thane of Cawdor, Macbeth will also be King of Scotland.

**2. What does Lady Macbeth “fear” in her husband’s nature?**

- She fears he is too kind, “too full o’ th’ milk of human kindness” (line 17) and good: he wants to become king “holily” and will not “play false” (line 22).

**i** **Differentiation Consideration:** If students struggle with line 19, consider posting or projecting the following questions:

The word *ambition* means “desire for some type of achievement or distinction.” What does it mean to be “without ambition” (line 19)?

- To be without ambition means to not want to have an achievement or distinction.

How does adding the word “not” change the meaning of the phrase “without ambition”?

- It gives it the opposite meaning. “Without ambition” means “not wanting an achievement” so “not without ambition” means “wanting an achievement.”

**3. According to Lady Macbeth, what qualities does Macbeth have that might help him achieve his goal?**

- He is ambitious.

**4. What can you infer about Lady Macbeth based on her description of Macbeth?**

- Student responses may include:
  - Lady Macbeth is ambitious for herself and Macbeth, and she is ruthless: she is willing to “play false” (line 22) to get what she wants and willing to consider “the milk of human kindness” (line 17) as something that interferes with her plans.

- Lady Macbeth is confident that she can influence Macbeth: “pour [her] spirits in [Macbeth’s] ear and chastise with the valor of [her] tongue” (lines 29–30).

① **Differentiation Consideration:** Consider providing the following optional extension question to deepen students’ understanding.

**Reread Act 1.3, lines 147–155 and Act 1.4, lines 55–60. How is Lady Macbeth’s thought, “Thou’st have, great / Glamis, / That which cries ‘Thus thou must do,’” similar to Macbeth’s thoughts after being greeted by the Witches as “Macbeth that shalt be king hereafter” (Act 1.3, line 53)?**

- Lady Macbeth’s thoughts, like Macbeth’s, are about murder, but neither Lady Macbeth nor Macbeth uses the word *murder* to express what they think must be done in order for Macbeth to become king.

If students struggle to answer this question, direct their attention to Macbeth’s thoughts in Act 1.3, lines 147–155, when he refers to “that horrid image” and “horrible imaginings” and to Act 1.4, lines 55–60, when he mentions “that ... which the eye fears.”

**5. Whom is Lady Macbeth addressing when she says, “Hie thee hither”?**

- She is addressing Macbeth, although he is not present.

**6. How does Lady Macbeth’s plan to “pour [her] spirits in [Macbeth’s] ear” and to “chastise [Macbeth] with the valor of [her] tongue” develop her character?**

- These plans portray Lady Macbeth as a strong woman who believes she can influence her husband.

**Soliloquy 2:** Lines 45–61 (from “The raven himself is hoarse” to “To cry ‘Hold! Hold!’”)

**1. How do the stage directions before line 45 help explain to whom Lady Macbeth is speaking these lines?**

- The stage directions say that a messenger leaves, so Lady Macbeth is alone again and she is speaking to herself.

**2. What qualities does Lady Macbeth ask the spirits to remove?**

- She asks the spirits to remove the qualities of “remorse,” regret (“compunctious visitings”), and “peace” (lines 51–53).

**3. For what quality does Lady Macbeth ask?**

- She asks to be filled with “direst cruelty” (line 50).

**4. How does Lady Macbeth’s request that the spirits “come to [her] woman’s breasts / And take [her] milk for gall” develop her thoughts about Macbeth in lines 16–19 (“Yet do I fear thy nature; / It is too full o’ th’ milk of human kindness / To catch the nearest way”)?**

- Lady Macbeth asks to have any milk from her breasts replaced with gall so that she can stay focused on her purpose: “shake [her] fell purpose” (line 53). This develops the idea she presented when she said

that Macbeth had “too much o’ th’ milk of human kindness” in his nature (line 17). Lady Macbeth associates milk with kindness and womanly qualities, and she thinks neither she nor her husband can afford to be kind or womanly if they want Macbeth to gain the crown.

**5. What does Lady Macbeth’s request for night to come reveal about Lady Macbeth and her plans?**

- Student responses may include:
  - Lady Macbeth’s wish for night to come reveals that she knows the act of murdering Duncan is wrong and needs to be accomplished when it will not be observed.
  - Lady Macbeth is eager to murder Duncan, so Macbeth can be king, so she is eager for night to come.

**6. How does Lady Macbeth’s description of night, “pall[ed] in the dunnest smoke of hell,” impact the meaning and mood of this passage?**

- Describing the night as wrapped “in the dunnest smoke of hell” emphasizes the evil that Lady Macbeth is planning.

① **Differentiation Consideration:** Consider providing the following optional extension question to deepen students’ understanding.

**How is Lady’s Macbeth wish for the night similar to Macbeth’s wish in Act 1.4, when he says, “Stars, hide your fires; / Let not light see my black and deep desires” (lines 57–58)?**

- By wishing for dark night and the stars to hide their fires, both Lady Macbeth and Macbeth reveal that they know that what they are planning is evil and would be condemned by anyone who knew of their plans.

**Vocabulary:** Some words are defined below. Refer to the explanatory notes in the text for additional vocabulary support.

Soliloquy 1	Soliloquy 2
hie (v.) – to cause (oneself) to go quickly hither (adv.) – to or toward this place impedes (v.) – slows the movement, progress or action of (someone or something) metaphysical (adj.) – supernatural	direst (adj.) – most extreme pall (v.) – cover with a cloth that is put over a coffin keen (adj.) – having a sharp edge or point