Homework Scaffolding Tool: Macbeth Act 1.4

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Directions: Read the scene in the first column. Answer the questions in the second column. Consult the third column and explanatory notes in your text for vocabulary and other assistance.

Consider listening to this free online recording of *Macbeth* Act 1 as you read the scene: www.wiredforbooks.org (11:34–14:26).

Text: Act 1.4		Questions	Vocabulary
[Flourish. Enter Duncan, Malcolm, Donalbain, Lennox, and Attendants] Duncan Is execution done on Cawdor? Are not Those in commission yet return'd?		Cawdor is dead. What do lines 4–12 show about how Cawdor dealt with his own execution?	in commission (idiom) – in
Malcolm My liege, They are not yet come back. But I have spoke With one that saw him die: who did report That very frankly he confess'd his treasons, Implored your highness' pardon and set forth A deep repentance: nothing in his life Became him like the leaving it; he died As one that had been studied in his death To throw away the dearest thing he owed, As 'twere a careless trifle.	5	How did Duncan feel about Cawdor?	repentance (n.) – regret for any past action
Duncan There's no art To find the mind's construction in the face: He was a gentleman on whom I built An absolute trust.	15	Duncan states: "There's no art / To find the mind's construction in the face" What does this mean?	





		How can that phrase apply to the development other characters?	
[Enter Macbeth, Banquo, Ross, and Angus] Duncan O worthiest cousin! The sin of my ingratitude even now Was heavy on me: thou art so far before That swiftest wing of recompense is slow To overtake thee. Would thou hadst less deserved, That the proportion both of thanks and payment Might have been mine! only I have left to say, More is thy due than more than all can pay.	20	What does this exchange with Macbeth show us about each character?	ingratitude (n.) – the state of being ungrateful; thanklessness
Macbeth The service and the loyalty I owe, In doing it, pays itself. Your highness' part Is to receive our duties; and our duties Are to your throne and state children and servants, Which do but what they should, by doing every thing Safe toward your love and honour.	25		
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.	30 35	What is Duncan's promise to Macbeth here, when he says "I have begun to plant thee"	
Banquo There if I grow, The harvest is your own. Duncan My plenteous joys, Wanton in fulness, seek to hide themselves	40	What does Duncan give to his eldest son?	





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In drops of sorrow. Sons, kinsmen, thanes,			
And you whose places are the nearest, know			
We will establish our estate upon			
Our eldest, Malcolm, whom we name hereafter			
The Prince of Cumberland; which honour must	45		
Not unaccompanied invest him only,			
But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall shine			
On all deservers. From hence to Inverness,			
And bind us further to you.			
Macbeth The rest is labour, which is not used for you.	50		
I'll be myself the harbinger and make joyful			
The hearing of my wife with your approach;			
So humbly take my leave.			
, ,			
Duncan My worthy Cawdor!			
Macbeth Aside The Prince of Cumberland! that is a step	55	How does Macbeth's	
On which I must fall down, or else o'erleap,		aside recall the words	
For in my way it lies. Stars, hide your fires;		of Duncan earlier in this	
Let not light see my black and deep desires:		scene?	
The eye wink at the hand; yet let that be,			
Which the eye fears, when it is done, to see.	60		
[He exits]			
Duncan True, worthy Banquo; he is full so valiant,		Summarize Macbeth's	
And in his commendations I am fed;		aside:	
It is a banquet to me. Let's after him,			
Whose care is gone before to bid us welcome:			
It is a peerless kinsman.	65		

