

William Shakespeare's

# MACBETH

**Patrick Stewart:**

"There are elements of [these great roles] in all of us. And that is part of the greatness of this dramatist."

"I am afraid to think what I have done; look on't again, I dare not."

Act 2. Scene 2



## IF YOU DIRECTED MACBETH...

**What would your version of Macbeth look like? What choices would you make regarding actors? Setting? Costume? Blocking? Subtext? Characterization? Interpretation?**

You have been asked to direct a scene from *Macbeth*. You must bring all you have learned about stagecraft and the play, including meaning, interpretation, characterization, subtext, blocking, costuming, and setting to bear on your production.

You will write up a report that includes several elements needed to help your producer, me, really see your scene so I can approve your choices.

The first part of your report should be a description of your set, including location, props, and any extra special effects.

The second part should include a cast list that explains why each actor is best suited for the part chosen. Characterization is key, and your actors must be chosen well. You should also describe the costume for each actor,

explaining why you have chosen each costume piece.

The third part of your report should include a script for your scene that includes the text of your scene along with your notations explaining subtext and blocking. You should include a piece explaining why you made the choices you did with regards to subtext, blocking, and interpretation.

You may include images where appropriate, but you must cite your sources properly with a Works Cited page.

All pieces of your report must be compiled and presented in a covered report. You may not e-mail your projects. Reports may not be done with presentation software or with poster board.

Screw your courage to the sticking place! Be bold! Be creative! Have fun!



### **Fair is Foul**

What would your witches look like? Would you cast fair witches with foul intentions, or foul witches? Which witch? Why?

# OUT, OUT BRIEF CANDLE

**Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage.**

The first decision you need to make is to determine which scene you will direct. You will choose from the options provided here unless you have a very good reason for selecting a different scene, and if you do wish to do a different scene, you must clear it with me prior to doing any work.

## Act 1, Scene 3

Soon after the three witches prophesy that Macbeth will be the thane of Cawdor, Ross and Angus arrive with the news of Macbeth's new title. Macbeth then contemplates the witches' other prophecies: that Banquo will be the father of kings, and that Macbeth will be king. Lines: First Witch, 35; Second Witch, 12; Third Witch, 14; Macbeth, 50; Banquo, 42; Ross, 16; Angus, 12.

## Act 1, Scene 5

Lady Macbeth reads the letter from Macbeth and plots murder. Lines: Lady Macbeth, 77; Messenger, 5; Macbeth, 4.

## Act 1, Scenes 6 and 7

Duncan's visit to Macbeth's castle is followed by Macbeth's second thoughts about doing the deed. Lines: Duncan, 19; Banquo, 9; Lady Macbeth, 54; Macbeth, 50.

## Act 2, Scene 2

Macbeth murders Duncan. Lines: Lady Macbeth, 52; Macbeth, 43.

## Act 2, Scene 3

Macduff discovers Duncan's murder. Lines: Porter, 38; Macduff, 41; Lennox, 20; Macbeth, 33; Lady Macbeth, 6; Banquo, 11; Donalbain, 8; Malcolm, 14.

## Act 3, Scene 4

The banquet scene. Macbeth sees Banquo's bloody ghost while entertaining the court. Lines: Macbeth, 111; Lords, 3; Lady Macbeth, 43; Murderer, 6; Lennox, 6; Ross, 7.

## Act 4, Scene 1

The witches cook up a charmed pot of hell-broth. Macbeth consults with the three witches. Lines: First Witch, 41; Second Witch, 28; Third Witch, 29; Hecate, 5; Macbeth, 81; First Apparition, 2; Second Apparition, 4; Third Apparition, 5; Lennox, 6.

## Act 4, Scene 2

Macbeth's murderers kill Macduff's family. Lines: Lady Macduff, 42; Ross, 20; Macduff's son, 22; Messenger, 10; Murderer, 4.

## Act 5, Scene 1

Lady Macbeth sleepwalks. Lines: Doctor, 37; Gentlewoman, 26; Lady Macbeth, 21.



**"Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood clean from my hand?"**

Act 2, Scene 2

## Act 5, Scene 8

Macbeth meets Macduff. Certain he will win and wanting no more of Macduff's blood on him, Macbeth is reluctant to fight Macduff. But when Macduff tells Macbeth that he was early ripped from his mother's womb, Macbeth knows he is done for. Macduff brings Malcolm Macbeth's head, and all hail the new king of Scotland. Lines: Macbeth, 26; Macduff, 20; Malcolm, 21; Siward, 13; Ross, 10.



## Issues to Consider

Your director's report will be graded on careful reading, understanding of characters, understanding of plot, understanding of language, ability to use language to portray character, well-planned movements, well-planned use of props, setting, and costumes, and anything extra you add to the report.

## Pieces for Final Report

- Description of set and props
- Cast list, characterization, and costume
- Script with blocking, subtext, and interpretation
- Images and Works Cited

## BE INFIRM OF PURPOSE

## IMAGE CREDITS

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