

Macbeth Act 2 Questions

Reading Comprehension/Literary Devices

1. Explain the relationship between the five parts of narrative plot structure and the five acts in a Shakespearean play. (from in class lecture/notes)
2. Within an act, when do you change scenes? (from in class lecture/notes)
3. What literary device does Shakespeare use when he opens scene two with Banquo speaking of impending nightmares?
4. Setting this play in a cold, dark, drafty castle in Scotland helps Shakespeare establish _____.
5. Shakespeare is big on imagery and he paints with words. Provide an example of Shakespeare using blood imagery in Act II and explain what effect this would have on the audience.
6. When Macbeth doubles down and plans to kill Banquo, what comes to pass that he expressed fears about in Act I when he said:

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well
It were done quickly. If the assassination
Could trammel up the consequence, and catch
With his surcease success; that but this blow
Might be the be-all and the end-all here,
But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,
We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases
We still have judgment here, that we but teach
Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return
To plague th' inventor: this even-handed justice
Commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice
To our own lips.