

1. Context - Shakespeare: A playwright and poet in the Elizabethan era (16th Century). Shakespeare wrote around 38 plays.	12. Character - The Witches: Three women who make prophecies
2. Context - Divine Right of Kings: The belief that the King was chosen by God - therefore regicide (the killing of a King) was disobeying God's will.	13. Theme - Ambition: Despite being a loyal and brave soldier at the beginning of the play, Macbeth can not resist the power of his ambition (his fatal flaw).
3. Context - Religion: Society was extremely religious, believing life to be sacred and God to be the creator of everything.	14. Theme - Appearance vs Reality: This is a play where people's outward appearances cannot be trusted. What might initially appear good, often turns out to be evil.
4. Context - Supernatural: Witchcraft was a crime, punishable by death - across Europe, many women accused of witchcraft were burned at the stake.	15. Theme - Guilt: Lady Macbeth underestimates the power of guilt and is made to pay for this with her life.
5. Context - Patriarchal Society: Women were presumed to be physically and mentally weaker than a man. Powerful women were often accused of being witches.	16. Theme - Power: The battle for power can be seen throughout the play. Some of the most powerful characters are female: Lady Macbeth and the Witches.
6. Character - Macbeth: The tragic hero, originally loyal to King Duncan	17. Theme - Chaos and Disorder: At the beginning of the play, everything is in order. Order is only restored at the very end of the play when the Kingdom is returned to its rightful owner.
7. Character - Lady Macbeth: Macbeth's wife	18. Method - Soliloquy: A character speaking their thoughts aloud. Soliloquies are often used when characters have a decision to make. It shows characters in turmoil.
8. Character - Banquo: Macbeth's close friend and ally	19. Method - Pathetic Fallacy: When the weather is used to reflect the mood. <i>e.g. The play opens with 'thunder and lightning' - Shakespeare immediately sets an ominous mood.</i>
9. Character - King Duncan: The King of Scotland at the beginning of the play	20. Method - Symbol/Motif: When an object is used to represent a deeper more significant meaning. <i>e.g. Blood is used as a symbol of guilt in the play.</i>
10. Character - Macduff: The Thane of Fife	21. Method - Dramatic Irony: When the audience knows something that one or more characters do not. <i>e.g. We know Duncan shouldn't trust Macbeth.</i>
11. Character - Malcolm: Duncan's oldest son and next in line to the throne.	22. Method - Imagery: Shakespeare uses contrasting images like: heaven/hell, light/dark, good/evil <i>e.g. Evil is sometimes shown through dark imagery.</i>

23. **Plot - Act 1:** After a battle in Scotland, Macbeth and his friend Banquo meet three witches, who make three prophecies. They predict that Macbeth will be a thane, Macbeth will be king, and Banquo's sons will be kings. The witches' first prophecy comes true, as King Duncan makes Macbeth the Thane of Cawdor.

24. **Plot - Act 2:** When King Duncan visits Macbeth's castle, Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth to murder King Duncan in his sleep to make the second prophecy come true. With Lady Macbeth's help, Macbeth frames King Duncan's dead servants as the murderers. Duncan's children, Malcolm and Donalbain, leave Scotland for their own safety.

25. **Plot - Act 3:** Now king, Macbeth worries about the witches' third prophecy, and sends murderers to kill Banquo and his son. At a banquet, Macbeth is haunted by visions of Banquo's ghost in front of all his guests.

26. **Plot - Act 4:** Macbeth visits the witches and they tell him the only person he needs to beware of is Macduff. No one a woman has given birth to can harm him, and he won't be defeated until Birnam Wood moves. He thinks he is unbeatable. While Macduff is in England convincing Duncan's son Malcolm to fight against Macbeth, Macbeth has Macduff's family murdered.

27. **Plot - Act 5:** Macduff and Malcolm arrive in Scotland with an army. On their way to attack Macbeth's castle they cut down branches from the trees in Birnam Wood to use as camouflage. When the wood moves, one of the witches' prophecies come true. Macduff reveals that he was born by a caesarean birth and kills Macbeth, fulfilling the final prophecy.