

**Plot****Macbeth Knowledge Organiser****Key Terminology****Act 1**

- The 3 witches gather to meet Macbeth and Banquo.
- Duncan hears the Thane of Cawdor has betrayed him.
- Macbeth is seen as a hero.
- Macbeth and Banquo hear the predictions.
- Duncan decides that Malcolm will be heir to the throne.
- Duncan plans to visit Macbeth.
- Lady Macbeth reads Macbeth's letter.

**Act 2**

- Macbeth has doubts and sees a vision of a floating dagger.
- He follows through with Duncan's murder.
- LM has to finish the job by wiping blood on the drunk guards.
- Macduff discovers Duncan's body.
- The guards are the likely suspects.
- Macbeth kills the guards.
- Malcolm and Donalbain flee the castle because they are afraid.

**Act 3**

- Banquo suspects Macbeth for the murder of King Duncan.
- Macbeth sends murderers to kill Banquo. Banquo is murdered but Fleance escapes.
- The ghost of Banquo is at the banquet. Macbeth rants and raves. LM tries to cover up the situation.
- Macduff didn't attend the banquet as he is suspicious of Macbeth.

**Act 4**

- Macbeth visits the 3 witches and they show him more visions. He believes he can't be killed by any man.
- Macbeth sends murderers to Macduff's castle to kill his family.
- In England, Macduff begs Malcolm to return to the throne.
- Malcolm tests Macduff's loyalty then agrees to the war against Macbeth.

**Act 5**

- LM has gone mad with guilt. She sleepwalks and tries to clean blood from her hands. She commits suicide.
- Many of Macbeth's supporters decide to help Malcolm. Macbeth isn't worried as he believes the prophecies.
- Macbeth confronts Macduff and learns that he was not born naturally but by caesarean section.
- Macbeth and Macduff fight and natural order is restored when Macbeth is killed and Malcolm is crowned king.

- The play was written in 1606 but was set in the 11th century (Medieval period).
- In the play, King Duncan was a benevolent king and loved by all. In real life he was a weak king.
- Banquo is intrigued by the prophecies and does have ambitious thoughts, but he does not choose to act on these thoughts.
- There are many similarities between Banquo and Macbeth. They are both soldiers, they are both very patriotic at the start of the play and they are both considered to be brave and noble.
- Shakespeare believed the human nature is prone to evil and that people are greedy. He illustrates this in the Macbeths' desire to become King and Queen. This greed led them to resort to extreme measures such as regicide. In Macbeth's case, his greed led him to kill others, too.
- Macbeth kills Macdonald, Duncan, Duncan's guards and Young Siward himself.
- Macbeth orders the deaths of Lady Macduff, her family and household and Banquo.
- Macbeth is the only Shakespearean play set in Scotland.
- Macbeth's castle is in Inverness. The Royal Palace is in Dunsinane.
- The Gunpowder Plot occurred in 1605, one year before the play was written.

**Additional Notes**

Key Terminology	
Antithesis	Opposite / Contrast
Aside	A remark heard only by the audience.
Dramatic Irony	When the audience knows things that the characters don't.
Iambic Pentameter	A line of verse, with 5 metrical feet, each with one unstressed syllable followed by one stressed syllable.
Juxtaposition	Two things closely placed with contrasting effect.
Monologue	A long speech by one actor.
Motifs	A dominant / recurring idea.
Paradox	A person/thing with contradictory features or qualities.
Semantic field	A group of words, which relate to a common theme or motif.
Soliloquy	Speaking one's thoughts aloud.
Key Vocabulary	
Ambition	Strong desire to achieve something.
Apparitions	A ghost/ghost-like image of a person.
Betrayal	Being disloyal.
Catholics	A person belonging to the Christian church.
Fatal Flaw	A defect / weakness in character.
Hallucination	Apparent vision of something not present.
Invincible	Feeling too powerful to be defeated.
Jacobean	Relating to the reign of King James I.
Kinsman	A relative / blood relation.
Masculinity	Qualities considered to be of a man.
Noble	Belonging to aristocracy.
Protestant	A member of the Western Christian church.
Regicide	The action of killing a king.
Remorseless	Without guilt or regret.
Scepticism	Doubts the truth of things.
Thane	A man with land granted by the king.
Tragedy	A play with tragic events.
Traitor	A person who betrays someone.
Treason	Betraying one's country.
Virtuous	Having high moral standards.

Act 1	Act 2	Act 3	Act 4	Act 5
<p>“Fair is foul, and foul is fair.” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Brave Macbeth” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“Noble Macbeth” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“shalt be What thou art promised; yet do I fear thy nature. It is too full o'th milk of human kindness” <b>S5</b></p> <p>“Look like the innocent flower, But be the serpent under't” <b>S5</b></p> <p>“False face must hide what the false heart doth know” <b>S7</b></p>	<p>“Is this a dagger which I see before me, The handle toward my hand?” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Methought I heard a voice cry, “Sleep no more! Macbeth does murder sleep” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“Will all great Neptune’s ocean wash this blood Clean from my hand?” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“My hands are of your color, but I shame To wear a heart so white.” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“A little water clears us of this deed.” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope The Lord’s anointed temple” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“Had I but died an hour before this chance, I had lived a blessèd time” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“There’s daggers in men’s smiles.” <b>S3</b></p>	<p>“They hailed him father to a line of kings, Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“We have scorched the snake, not killed it.” <b>S2</b></p> <p>“O treachery! Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly!” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“I am cabined, cribbed, confined, bound in To saucy doubts and fears” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“Never shake Thy gory locks at me.” <b>S4</b></p> <p>“It will have blood they say: blood will have blood.” <b>S4</b></p>	<p>“By the pricking of my thumbs, Something wicked this way comes.” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Beware Macduff; Beware the thane of Fife.” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Then live, Macduff: what need I fear of thee? But yet I'll make assurance double sure” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“None of woman born Shall harm Macbeth.” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Macbeth shall never vanquish'd be until Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“Black Macbeth Will seem as pure as snow” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“your wife and babes Savagely slaughter’d” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“I must also feel it as a man” <b>S3</b></p> <p>“Be this the whetstone of your sword: let grief Convert to anger; blunt not the heart, enrage it.” <b>S3</b></p>	<p>“Out, damned spot! out, I say!” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“What, will these hands ne'er be clean?” <b>S1</b></p> <p>“She should have died hereafter” <b>S5</b></p> <p>“Turn, hell-hound, turn!” <b>S8</b></p> <p>“Of all men else I have avoided thee: But get thee back; my soul is too much charged With blood of thine already.” <b>S8</b></p> <p>“Macduff was from his mother's womb Untimely ripp'd.” <b>S8</b></p> <p>“behold, where stands The usurper's cursed head” <b>S8</b></p>