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Period 8

English HW #22

15a) Macbeth's mind has changed. At first, in the third scene of the first act, Macbeth was passive about becoming king. If by chance he became king, he would not mind. By the fourth scene, his remark gives the impression that Macbeth acknowledges himself that he has ambition to become king by any means, even through murder. This change is caused by King Duncan announcing that his son Malcolm will become the king. Macbeth sees his chance at becoming king get eliminated, so he begins to have the dark desire of killing the king and/or Malcolm.

15b) The decision Macbeth makes in the fourth scene results in Macbeth feeling a little bit guilty. He knows his ambition to eliminate the current royalty is immoral. Macbeth says, "Let not light see my[Macbeth's] black and deep desires," (I.iv 58) to himself. The light is moral goodness while he describes his desires as being immoral.

19. Lady Macbeth hopes to capitalize on Macbeth's pride in his manliness. In the seventh scene, Macbeths panics and talks to himself about what he and his wife are about to do to the king. Macbeth's fear is growing. Lady Macbeth notices this. To counteract Macbeth's fears, she says, "Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life And live a coward in thine own esteem, Letting "I dare not" wait upon "I would," Like the poor cat i' th' adage?" (I.vii 45-49). She is calling Macbeth a coward if he does not go through with the plan to murder the king. This works as Macbeth says "Prithee, peace. I dare do all that may become a man," (I.vii 50-51). Macbeth's fears have been replaced with the desire to prove to his wife and perhaps to himself that he is a man.