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Period 8

English HW #28

2)Lady Macbeth's state of mind is hyped up or excited. She herself directly states "That which hath made them drunk made me bold," (II.ii 1). Her boldness has yet to waver. This leads to excitement and feeling hyped up. Shakespeare writes, "He [Macbeth] is about it: The doors are open; and the surfeited grooms / Do mock their charge with snores," (II.ii 5-7). Lady Macbeth is excited enough to be practically imagining Macbeth killing the king. Her statement, “Had he not resembled/My father as he slept, I had done‟t” (II.ii.12-13) reveals that she is not a completely cruel and heartless woman and that she is vulnerable. Lady Macbeth in the previous act seemed to have an unstoppable ambition to kill the king so that her husband can take his place. However, for her not to have killed the king because the king resembles her father demonstrates attachment.

4a)The dramatic effect of the knocking adds a lot of tension to the play. Lady Macbeth supposedly drugged the majority of the people at her home to be asleep. Anyone who is still awake and able to knock on doors means that there is a possibility Lady Macbeth and her husband could have been caught committing murder.

4b) The dramatic effect of Macbeth’s last words of the scene: “Wake Duncan with thy knocking! I would thou couldst!” shows Macbeth's guilt about killing Duncan, guilt that Macbeth may carry for a long time. Macbeth essentially says in the second part of the quote that he would have woken up Duncan himself if he would as opposed to killing him.