

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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### **INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LITERATURE**

English Literature, as a subject, is the study and analysis of English literary works.

The study and analysis requires the understanding of basic literary terms, literary devices and literary genres.

#### **1. Basic Literary Terms**

Literary terms are the basic elements in any literary piece of work. There are six basic elements one has to look for in any piece of work. These are **setting, plot, theme, character, persona/ narrator** and **addressee**.

##### **a. Plot**

Plot refers to the actual story or the story itself.

##### **b. Character**

Character refers to actor, person taking part in a novel, play, or story. It can also be defined as the behaviour of the actor or character in a story, novel etc.

##### **c. Setting**

Setting refers to the location of the story in time and place, that is, where and when the events take place.

##### **d. Theme**

A theme is a message any writer wants to convey to the readers. It can also be defined as main ideas in a story.

##### **e. Persona / Narrator:**

Persona refers to the speaker in a poem while the narrator is the person who tells the story. It can also be defined as the point of view from which the story is being told:

##### **f. Addressee**

An addressee refers to the recipient or target of the message from the persona.

#### **2. Literary Devices**

Literary devices are techniques or style of writing used by an author, poet or a playwright in a given genre of literature. Some of the techniques include the use of similes, metaphors, personification, irony, satire, imagery, symbolism, flash back, alliteration, hyperbole, paradox and rhyme just to mention a few.

Literary devices do not come out automatically in a literary text. The author deliberately makes a choice of the techniques to use in coming up with his or her work. Literary devices are also commonly known as **Figures of speech**. The following part defines each literary device.

#### **a. Similes**

A simile is a brief and direct comparison between two things or ideas. It is usually introduced by **like** and **as**.

##### *Examples*

- (a) His skin was as sticky as "mang'ina".
- (b) This day is like heaven.
- (c) A wanderer without a home is like a monkey in a tree.

Similes, by comparing two things help to clarify meanings of words, expressions or statements by creating a picture to the reader.

#### **b. Metaphor**

A metaphor, like a simile, compares two things. However, while a simile compares things directly, a metaphor does so indirectly.

##### *Examples*

- i. John is a lion.
- ii. The soil is the bread and butter of Malawi.
- iii. Agriculture is the backbone of Malawi's economy.

Note that similes and metaphors are used to emphasize expressions. Let us look at one example: *John is a lion*. John is compared to a lion. This does not mean that John suddenly changes into a lion, but it emphasizes that John is courageous and fearless.

#### **c. Personification**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Personification is an example of figurative language that gives human qualities to a plant, animal, object or idea.

### **Examples**

- i. I love Mother Malawi, the warm heart of Africa.
- ii. The wind whispered into our ears softly.
- iii. Hunger has showed its ugly face to the nation.

### **d. Imagery**

An imagery refers to the use of language to represent objects, actions, feelings, thoughts, ideas in order to enhance understanding in a given text. One example is:*Hot tears flood my cheeks*. An imagery can also be defined as a word or expression that assists to bring up or create a vivid picture on something being said. Consider the poem below.

Once upon a time

There was love and love

Whispered only in sweetness

The sun rose bright

And cool rivers mirrored

White clouds sailing high

In the second stanza, “**sun, cool rivers and white clouds**” are used as imageries of love. They provide a picture or an image of the affection that was there between two lovers. Similarly, dark clouds cannot represent love but hatred.

### **e. Satire**

Satire refers to dramatic statements whose purpose is to expose or attack human weakness. This is done by changing or exaggerating other features in the poem or story for humorous effect. A good example is the case of a prison monger.

### **f. Alliteration**

Alliteration refers to a figure of speech in which consonants, especially at the beginning of words, are repeated. In poetry, when the same words or sounds are

used, especially consonants used at the beginning of several words that are close together, it is known as **alliteration**.

*Example*

She sells sea shells at the seashore.

**g. Irony**

An irony is a statement whose meaning is contrary to the meanings of the words used. It involves saying what one does not mean.

*Example*

"You are very generous" said to someone who refuses to give you something.

**h. Paradox**

A paradox is a view which contradicts the accepted opinion. It can also be defined as a statement, a fact, or situation that seems to be absurd as it contains two opposite facts or characteristics that contradict.

*Example*

Our pastor was caught stealing chocolate in the shop. The usual concept of pastor contradicts with the idea of stealing.

**i. Hyperbole:**

A hyperbole is a deliberate exaggeration intended to intensify an emotional force. It is a way of speaking or writing that makes something or someone sounds bigger or better, worse or more than it is or he/ she is naturally.

*Examples*

- i. His hands are full of blood.
- ii. My father had all the money in the world before he died.

**j. Tone:**

Tone is the attitude that a writer has towards his or her subject.

**k. Mood**

Mood is the feeling a reader experiences when reading a section or genre of literature.

**l. Stanza:**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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A stanza is a group of lines that make a section or paragraph of a poem. It can also be defined as a verse of a poem.

### **3. Literary Genres**

Literary pieces can be classified into genres or types. There are four types of literary genres and these are: poetry, novels, plays and short stories. Each of these genres has special characteristics that makes it different from others.

#### **a. Poetry:**

The following are features of poetry:

- i. written in verse or stanza form
- ii. sometimes meanings are hidden behind verses or stanzas
- iii. verses or stanzas can be of different lengths

The first step in poetry is to recognise the message in the poem or the hidden element of the poem. Secondly, understanding the poem requires the ability to analyse the poetic devices that are in the poem. Some of the common poetic devices are like tone, mood, irony, imagery, personification, alliteration, paradox, similes, metaphors and so on. The meaning of poetry is often not obvious because the words might not carry their literal meaning. The meaning lays far distant and requires a special skill to extract it.

#### **b. Short Story**

Features of a short story include the following:

- i. no prescribed length but, generally, shorter than a novel
- ii. has clearly defined characters
- iii. fused with themes
- iv. can be written using different styles
- v. written in paragraphs

#### **c. Novel**

The following are features of a novel:

- i. longer than a short story
- ii. clearly defined character

- iii. fused with themes
- iv. diversified plot
- v. written in paragraphs

#### **d. Play**

The following are features of a play:

- i. dramatic work designed to be presented, performed or acted on a stage.
- ii. consists of actors and actresses
- iii. contains stage directions

Plays are normally divided into two sections. The main sections are called Acts and the subsections are called scenes.

## **PART 1 MACBETH BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

### **Introduction**

Macbeth is a play written by William Shakespeare. William Shakespeare was an English playwright. Macbeth was written in about 1600, but it is set even earlier about 1050. It is set during the time when Scotland was a separate country from England and when the country was ruled by kings.



**Map of Scotland**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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This is a map of Scotland where the story of Macbeth took place. Scotland lies to the north of England. The places that have been indicated on the map have been mentioned in the play.

The play is about how the power of evil shows itself, and how this power overtakes a person. For this reason, Shakespeare includes witches in the play. The witches lead people like Macbeth into evil acts. If men are good, the witches seem to encourage them go astray. The witches help to corrupt the goodness of people. For example, Macbeth is easily influenced by the witches as they tell him what he would like to hear and what he would like to happen to him.

Macbeth, as a play, is the struggle between the forces of good and evil. These forces exist in every individual. However, individual's association with society has some impact or effect on him or her and he or she becomes vulnerable or liable to fall into temptation. Sometimes temptation can be so great that in the end it corrupts the goodness in the individual thereby turning him or her into being an evil person. For example, one may be ambitious and fall prey to evil temptations. A person can become so blinded by the strong ambition that the goodness in him or her becomes suppressed and corrupted.

### **Types of Plays**

There are many types of plays. However, main types are comedies and tragedies.

#### **1. Comedy**

A comedy is a play with a happy ending. The usual ending of this play is marriage of protagonists (main characters) and victory.

#### **2. Tragedy**

A tragedy is a play with a sad ending. The usual ending of this play is defeat and death of main characters for example, the play of Macbeth.

### **Characters in the Play**

- 1. *Duncan*** : He is the king of Scotland (1034). He has two children, Malcolm and Donalbain.
- 2. *Malcolm*** : He is Duncan's elder son. Early in the play Malcolm is named as Duncan's heir, the next king of Scotland and he becomes the prime suspect when Duncan is murdered.
- 3. *Macbeth***: He is first presented as a brave warrior. He successfully leads Duncan's army against Macdonwald of Norway. The witches' prophecy leads him to murder Duncan so that he himself becomes king. He kills Macduff's family and Banquo out of fear of losing his position.
- 4. *Lady Macbeth***: She is Macbeth's wife. She urges Macbeth to kill Duncan and refuses to understand his doubts and hesitations. She is even more ambitious than her husband.
- 5. *Banquo***: He is one of the leaders of Duncan's army. He is a brave nobleman. He is praised for his courage in the battle just like Macbeth.
- 6. *Macduff***: He is a Scottish thane or nobleman. He kills Macbeth to revenge on the death of his wife and children.
- 7. *Ross***: He is a Scottish thane. He is a valuable commentator on the action of the play and its effects in the wider world outside Macbeth's castle.
- 8. *The witches***: They are also called Weird sisters. The Witches can see the future. Everything they say comes true in the play, except the prediction about Banquo's children getting the throne.
- 9. *Lennox, Menteith, Angus* and *Caithness***: Other Scottish Thanes are
- 10. *Siward***: The Commander of the English army
- 11. *Young Siward***: Siward's son.
- 12. *Seyton***: An officer attending to Macbeth.

### **The Plot of Macbeth**

At the beginning of the plot, Macbeth, a general in King Duncan's army, is returning from a hard-fought victory in the battle which he has won praise. He is with Banquo, another general. They meet three witches who prophesy that

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Macbeth will earn the title of Thane of Cawdor and will later be king. Banquo is told that his children will be kings. Soon after this, we hear that the Thane of Cawdor has been killed for treason and Macbeth is indeed given his title. Because one of the witches' prophecies was fulfilled, Macbeth inwardly becomes ambitious and wants to become king. The seed of evil begins to grow. The plot continues with king Duncan who announces that he will visit Macbeth's castle. Macbeth tells his wife in a letter about the prophecies. He tells her also the prophecies that have already come true such as his becoming Thane of Cawdor. She is very happy and is inwardly optimistic about her husband becoming king. Lady Macbeth promises to help her husband to become king and she plans the murder of king Duncan. Urged by his wife, Macbeth kills Duncan at night.

The king's sons, Malcolm and Donalbain, run away to England for fear of being accused. Macbeth is crowned king but feels very insecure. The witches have predicted that Banquo's children will finally become kings. This disturbs Macbeth, who arranges to have Banquo and his son killed. The killing of Banquo does not make Macbeth feel any safer because Banquo's son escapes. Macbeth gives a royal banquet at his court where he sees Banquo's ghost stained in blood. Macbeth becomes so terrified by the ghost that the other guests at the banquet think he is mad. Of course they cannot see the ghost which Macbeth claims is present.

Macbeth revisits the witches who prophesy that he will be safe until "Birnam wood moves to Dunsinane". They again assure him that he cannot be killed by men "of woman born", meaning born of a woman. Macbeth later learns that Macduff and Malcolm are in England. He orders that Lady Macduff and her children should be killed. Macbeth's conscience starts torturing him and he becomes afraid. Lady Macbeth too is haunted by these crimes to extent that she sleepwalks at night and talks to herself. She is also obsessed by the idea that Duncan's blood is still on her hands. Meanwhile, Macduff is angered by the

*murder of his family. Together with Malcolm, he raises an army against Macbeth who is prepared to defend his castle. He later learns that his wife has died.*

*The army of Macduff and Malcolm marches through Binarm forest. They disguise themselves with branches and the woods appear to be moving. This confirms what the witches predicted, that until Binarm wood moves, Macbeth would never be beaten. He is taken aback by this event and feels cornered. In the course of the battle, Macduff tells Macbeth that he was not born of a woman, then fulfilling another prophecy of the witches, that Macbeth cannot be beaten or killed by anyone "born of woman". This expression "not born of woman" means not being born in the natural way. Instead, the baby is taken out of the mother's womb through an operation at the hospital. The medical term for this kind of birth is called caesarian section. Macduff was born through caesarian section so he was "not born of woman". Macbeth and Macduff fight. Macduff kills Macbeth and Duncan's son, Malcolm, becomes king.*

### **Common Ideas during the Period of the Play**

Macbeth reveals some common ideas and beliefs of Shakespeare's time. The understanding of these beliefs and ideas is important for a better understanding of the play.

#### **1. The divine right of kings**

People believed in the divine right of kings which gave kings power from God. People who spoke or acted against the king, committed treason and were killed as punishment. For example, Macdonwald was killed after he rebelled against the king of Scotland, King Duncan.

#### **2. Witchcraft**

Another common idea concerned witchcraft. Most people believed in witchcraft and were afraid of witches. They believed that witches had evil supernatural powers. They also believed that witches were friends of evil spirits and that witches could change their human form to that of animals.

#### **3. Military honour**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Successful military soldiers who fought to defend their country were honoured with titles such as that of Thane. For example, Macbeth was awarded the title of Thane of Cawdor after winning the battle.

### **4. Castles**

Kings and noblemen lived in castles. Castles were very strong buildings usually built of stones. They were heavily fortified which means had strong walls around them. Castles were often built on hills to enable the soldiers to easily see the enemy forces.

### **ACT 1, SCENES 1-7**

#### **Macbeth and Banquo meet Witches**

In Act 1 Scene 1 the witches agree to meet Macbeth. Macbeth and Banquo are coming from the battle against Duncan's enemies and have won it. Witches plan to meet the two soldiers and make prophecies to them. The Witches seem to know where Macbeth will be. They can see the future.

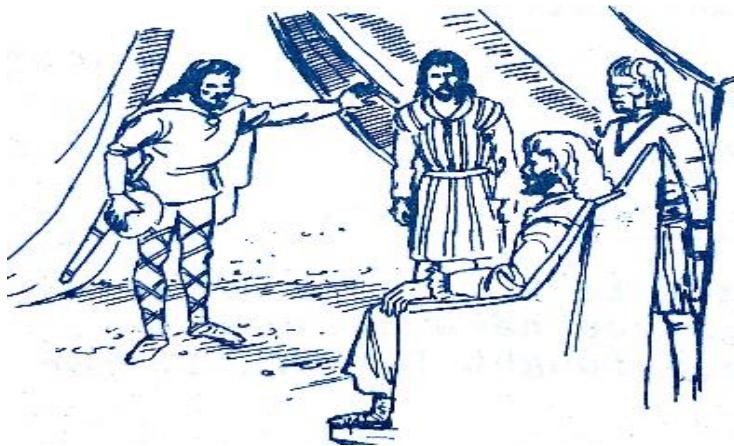
#### **Duncan Receives Reports about the Battle**

Act 1 Scene 2 takes place in an army's camp. Duncan, the king of Scotland is with his sons, Malcolm and Donalbain and the king's attendants. Duncan is listening to reports about the battles fought by army against the rebel army. The rebels were led by Macdonwald from the western Isles of Scotland, the Thane of Cawdor and the King of Norway.

Act 1 Scene 2 starts with a Captain from the battle field who arrives at Duncan's castle before Macbeth and Banquo report on the progress of the war. A wounded and bleeding captain in Duncan's army reports how the battle was won. This captain reports that Macbeth and Banquo had difficulties in defeating Macdonwald's forces since the enemy had a lot of forces that kept attacking from all directions but still in the end the victory fell on Macbeth. In his description, he emphasizes Macbeth's courage in the fierce battle. Lennox and Ross report to Duncan how the Thane of Cawdor betrayed him, Duncan, by assisting the enemy forces but still produces no success on Macdonwald. Out of

anger Duncan strips off his title of Thane of Cawdor and hastily sends Ross and Angus to greet Macbeth on the way with this new title. To show his gratitude, King Duncan orders that the Thane of Cawdor should be executed and that Macbeth should be the new Thane of Cawdor.

### **Duncan Receives Reports About the Battle**



### **Macbeth Meets the Witches**

Act 1 Scene 3 opens with the Witches' prophecy to Macbeth and Banquo. Macbeth and Banquo on their way home from the battle and they suddenly meet the witches who greet them with honour. The Witches speak strange prophecies to Macbeth and Banquo, and Ross brings the new title to Macbeth. The witches make three prophecies to Macbeth to come in the following order:

- (a) *Thane of Glamis.*
- (b) *Macbeth is made Thane of Cawdor.*
- (c) *King hereafter.*

Both these generals are surprised and Banquo asks the witches to predict his fate too. According to Banquo, he is told by the witches that he will be a father of kings, that is, his sons shall be kings. Macbeth is not confused with the first prophecy because it is clear since he holds the position.

The second prophecy, however, confuses Macbeth. This time he does not know that the Thane of Cawdor was demoted. Macbeth who had already inherited the title of Thane of Glamis wonders how he can be Thane of Cawdor. Again,

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

he knows that someone already holds this title. At this moment the witches disappear.

The third prophecy of kingship is even more confusing to him because King Duncan is alive. However, internally, they feel happy with Witches' prophecies. Coincidentally, Ross and Angus sent by the king, reveal to Macbeth that Duncan has appointed him Thane of Cawdor. He further explains that the Thane of Cawdor has been demoted. Macbeth starts trusting the Witches. He speaks alone, excited of the prospects of becoming the King of Scotland.



### **Macbeth Meets the Witches**

As Macbeth and Banquo think about the prophecies, Ross and Angus enter. They tell Macbeth that the king has given him the title of Thane of Cawdor and that the current Thane who turned rebel is to be killed. Macbeth cannot help thinking of the prospect of becoming a king especially as the other prophecy has been so promptly fulfilled. Macbeth suggests to Banquo that they should find time to discuss these happenings more fully.

*"(Aside) this supernatural soliciting cannot be ill, cannot be good/ if ill why hath it given me earnest of success, commencing in truth? I am Thane of Cawdor: /if good/ why do I yield to that suggestion."* Macbeth said in his soliloquies (Act 1 scene 3 pages 130-142).

The prophesy surprises Macbeth and he wonders how true it is. When the prophecy about Thane of cawdor is confirmed by Ross and Angus, his mind becomes disturbed. Something about the witches' words strikes him and he thinks deeply about what has happened. He gets involved in soliloquies, speaking to oneself.“Aside Glamis and Thane of cawdor's the greatest is behind. (Act 1 pages 118-119)

### **King Duncan Prepares to Visit Macbeth's Castle**

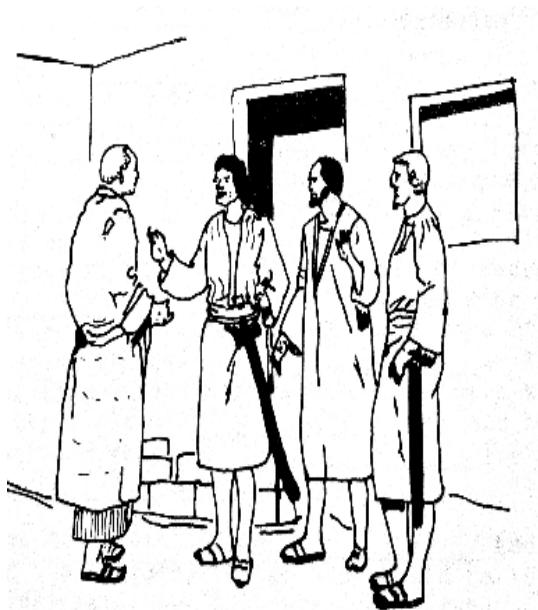
In Act1 Scene 4, King Duncan welcomes Macbeth and announces that his son Malcolm will be the next King of Scotland and Macbeth begins to worry. Duncan pays tribute to Macbeth and expresses his wish to visit Macbeth's castle. The king is in his palace with his sons, Malcolm and Donalbain and their attendants. King Duncan asks whether the traitor(Thane of Cawdor) has been killed as ordered. Malcolm tells the king how Cawdor was executed. He adds that Cawdor confessed his treason before being executed.

When Macbeth enters the palace, he is welcomed by the king who says that he feels he should repay him for his good work in battle. Macbeth in turn, humbly states that it is his duty to be at the service of the king and to be loyal to him. The king embraces Banquo while praising him for the good work he has done. King Duncan then names hi son, Malcolm as the heir(next king) to the throne and gives him the title of Prince of Cumberland. The king also announces that he intends to visit Macbeth's castle. Macbeth takes leave of the king to warn his wife about the king's visit.

The old Thane of Cawdor is dead. Duncan says he used to trust him.Duncan praises Macbeth and Banquo. They reply loyally.Macbeth is not happy when Malcolm is made Prince of Cumberland, the next king of Scotland.He has been told by witches that he will be king, but Duncan and Malcolm stand in his way. Banquo's children look like a threat to him too. He thinks murder might be the answer for fear of losing the prophesied position.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

Duncan invites himself to Macbeth's place. King Duncan summons the other people to join him on his way to Macbeth's castle.



**Duncan Honours Macbeth**

### **At Macbeth's castle**

Act 1 Scene 5, 6 and 7 are events at Macbeth's castle. Lady Macbeth reads Macbeth's letter. Through the letter, he describes the appearances of the witches, what the witches promised him and the prophecy that has already been fulfilled. Macbeth wrote this letter after he had seen the witches, but before he met King Duncan.

After reading the letter, Lady Macbeth immediately starts looking forward to the most important prophecy being fulfilled. She wanted Macbeth to become king. She is sure that Macbeth will become king because he has been promised by the witches. Knowing her husband, however, she thinks that he is too mild to do what is needed to get the throne. She also believed that although Macbeth is ambitious, he will not do anything wrong to fulfill his ambitions. In order to help him overcome his weakness, Lady Macbeth vows to talk to her husband seriously when he comes, to persuade him to take the crown, to murder King Duncan. She thinks he should do whatever it takes for Macbeth to become king.



### **Lady Macbeth Reads Macbeth's Letter**

Lady Macbeth decides that Duncan must die. A messenger comes in with a message that the king is coming that very evening to pay them a visit. Lady Macbeth thinks this is their chance to kill him. When the messenger leaves, Lady Macbeth is very happy because things are working according to her plans. She tells Macbeth that he has to pretend to be nice, but be nasty underneath. This is shown by this expression, "look like the time, bear welcome in your eye, your hand, your tongue, look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under". (pages 15-16 lines 60-65).

### **Duncan's Arrival at Macbeth's Castle**

King Duncan, Malcolm, Donalbain and a few noblemen including Banquo and Macduff have just arrived for the king's visit. Duncan and Banquo comment on the appearance of Macbeth's castle. It is peaceful and pleasantly situated. As they admire the castle, Lady Macbeth greets them as a good and welcoming hostess. She gives her compliments to the king. While at Macbeth's castle, King

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Duncan and his followers are welcomed by Lady Macbeth. Lady Macbeth welcomes Duncan with respect and loyalty.

In Act 1 Scene 7, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth agree to kill king Duncan. Macbeth talks to himself in a long speech about the challenge of killing King Duncan. He is worried of the following:

- i. the consequences of being found out.
- ii. Feeling of guilty: - Duncan is his friend and a good king.

In trying to persuade Macbeth to kill king Duncan, Lady Macbeth did the following:

- i. She tells him not to be a coward and to carry out what he said he would.
- ii. She comes up with a plan to frame the "chamberlains". The chamberlains are Duncan's servants also known as grooms. Lady Macbeth says she will get the servants drunk and make sure they are asleep so that they cannot hear Duncan being killed. She says they will use the servants' daggers and cover the servants with blood and make it seem that the servants did it. That way everyone will blame the servants and not Macbeths.

Macbeth agrees to kill King Duncan. He thinks it is a good idea now.

### **Themes in Act 1**

#### **1. Betrayal**

This theme is shown by the Thane of Cawdor who betrays King Duncan and the people of Scotland when he joins the enemy side fighting against Duncan's army in the battle.

#### **2. Seeds of Evil Ambitions**

This theme is portrayed by Witches who make confusing predictions, yet giving messages of hope to Macbeth. Macbeth gets confused when he is coincidentally appointed Thane of Cawdor by Duncan. The evil thoughts start as he thinks of becoming a king as predicted by the Witches. Macbeth dreams of obtaining a higher title.

### **3. Coincidence**

The Witches predictions that Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor is coincidentally confirmed by Ross and Angus who were sent by king Duncan to tell him that he has been promoted to that title. This coincidence. This makes Macbeth develop total trust in the Witches.

### **4. Greed**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth and old Thane of Cawdor. Macbeth is not satisfied with what he has. He is given important positions such as Thane of Glamis and later Thane of Cawdor but he does not show any sign of appreciation. He wants to be king through devious (evil) means.

The old Thane of Cawdor also portrays this theme. He had a high position in Scotland, yet he went on to betray the king and his people.

### **5. Superstition**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth's belief in the supernatural power. When he meets the Witches who make predictions about him that he will be a Thane of Cawdor and king hereafter. Macbeth has taken to heart what the witches have prophesied. He becomes unsettled or deeply disturbed by the prophecy. The confirmation that he is Thane of Cawdor makes him think that the other prophecy of becoming king will be fulfilled. "*It cannot be ill cannot be good- if ill, why has it given me earnest of success*" (Act 1 scene 3 lines 31-32)

### **6. Treason**

This theme is evidenced by old Thane of Cawdor who is charged of treason as he helps the enemy side against his own king and his people.

### **7. Deception**

In several parts of the play, characters are deceiving each other. For example, in Scene 4 Duncan says he was deceived by Thane of Cawdor's face. "*There is no art to find the mind's construction in the face.*" In scene 5, Lady Macbeth tells her husband to look like the innocent flower but be serpent under it. In scene 6, Lady Macbeth behaves deceitfully when Duncan arrives at the castle.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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She welcomes him and states that she is at his service. Throughout this scene, she plays the hospitable hostess convincingly, but she has planned the cruellest murder.

### **8. Dramatic Irony**

In Scene 4 Duncan remarked about the untrustworthiness of Cawdor just as Macbeth entered the palace. We know that because of the prophecies, Macbeth himself may now not be as trustworthy as the king thinks he is. In scene 6, what Duncan says mean differently because of Macbeth's plan to murder him. The "ignorant" Duncan comments about Macbeth's castle, "This castle has a pleasant seat" yet it is the king's place of death.

### **9. Fear and Conflict**

When Macbeth plans to kill king Duncan, he starts feeling uncomfortable because Duncan is his guest and a good king. There is fear and conflict in him. Macbeth's conscience, the awareness of choice between right and wrong, starts bothering him.

### **10. Sleep**

Sleep is one of themes portrayed in the play of Macbeth. It is portrayed by Banquo who cannot go to sleep as Duncan is to be murdered in his sleep.

### **Character Analysis**

#### **1. Macbeth**

**Courageous/ fearless:** This is shown by the way he fights in the battle against the enemy side.

**Loyal/ patriotic character:** He sacrifices his life to fight in defense of king Duncan and his people.

**Evil character:** He regards Malcolm as a stumbling block to his ambition of becoming a king. He starts planning evil means of becoming a king of Scotland.

**Ambitious character:** When he is told that he has been appointed Thane of cawdor he says, "Glamis and Thane of Cawdor, the greatest is behind". He exposes his ambitious spirit to become a king of Scotland.

## **2. The Witches**

*Evil characters:* They plant the seeds of evil in Macbeth with confusing prophecies. They do not clarify how Macbeth would attain the kingship. It is not surprising that Macbeth kills Duncan in trust that the Witches were telling him the truth.

## **3. Old Thane of Cawdor**

*Ungrateful character:* He has a high position in Scotland. Yet he goes ahead to betray the state.

## **4. Banquo**

*Foresighted character:* He has already seen that the Witches' predictions are there to destroy them if trusted and he warns Macbeth not to over trust them. This becomes true at the end.

## **5. Lady Macbeth**

*A determined woman, ambitious for her husband and deceitful character:* She is seen to be ambitious and wants the best for her husband. She helps him to succeed.

## **6. Duncan**

*Simple-minded, appreciative, loving and rewarding character:* He is a simple – minded person who sees the best in people and easily trusts them. Even before he meets Macbeth (scene 2), he trusts the captain's reports about the battle. He is gentle and appreciates the good things done on his behalf. He praises Macbeth and gives him the title of Thane of Cawdor.

*Quick-spirited character:* Some of the decisions he has been making were too hasty and unrealistic. For example, he does not wait for Macbeth to come from battle but promotes him while he is on the way.

## **Important Expressions in Act 1 Scenes 1-7**

### **Expression 1**

“All hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor”

“All hail Macbeth hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor”

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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*"All hail Macbeth, that shalt be king hereafter"*

In these expressions, the witches call Macbeth Thane of Glamis which he knows he is. Then they call him Thane of Cawdor which he is, but he does not know it yet. Finally, they say he will be king which he does not know how it can be fulfilled.

### **Expression 2**

*"The Thane of Cawdor lives. Why do you dress me in borrowed robes,"* said Macbeth.

In this expression, Macbeth is surprised when Angus calls him Thane of Cawdor. Macbeth responds and says, "How can I be Thane of Cawdor when the old one is still alive?"

### **Expression 3**

*"How, can the devil speak true?"* Said Banquo.

In this statement, Banquo realizes the witches' first prediction has come true.

### **Expression 4**

*"Glamis thou art and Cawdor and shalt be what thou art promised; yet do I fear thy nature, it is too full o'th' milk of human kindness,"* said Lady Macbeth (lines 15- 20, Act 1 scene 5).

In this expression, Lady Macbeth tells Macbeth that he will be king, but she is worried about him being too soft.

### **Expression 5**

*"Away and mock the time with fairest show, False face must hide what the false heart doth know,"* said Macbeth.

In this statement, Macbeth says that he will pretend to be nice to people during the banquet so that they do not know what he is thinking.

### **Expression 6**

*"But screw your courage to the sticking-place,"* Lady Macbeth said (line 60, Act 1 Scene 7).

In this expression, Lady Macbeth tells Macbeth that he should make himself feel really brave.

### **ACT 2 SCENES 1 - 4**

In Act 2 Scene 1, Banquo and Macbeth chat. Banquo points out that one of the Witches' predictions has come true. Macbeth tells him that they will talk about it later. Macbeth sees a blood-covered dagger. He says it is pointing the way to kill Duncan. He knows he is seeing things that are not really there. He makes a long fancy speech to himself about the planned murderer. Macbeth plans to kill king Duncan. He gets a grip on himself and sets off to do it.

### **Macbeth Kills Duncan**

Act 2 Scene 2 starts with Macbeth killing King Duncan. Lady Macbeth takes the bloody daggers away from her husband. Macbeth is already beginning to regret what he has done. After killing King Duncan, Macbeth feels scared and anxious. Lady Macbeth tells him not to worry and to finish the plan.

In Act 2 Scene 3, King Duncan is found dead. For their safety, Malcolm and Donalbain agree to scarper (run away). Donalbain thinks something nasty could happen to them too. So Malcolm plans to go to England and Donalbain plans to go to Ireland. Macduff finds king Duncan murdered and calls for everyone to wake up. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are sad. They pretend to be upset. Macbeth kills the servants. He accuses servants of being murderers. Macbeth says he was so upset about Duncan that he killed the servants.

### **Ross and an Old Man Chat**

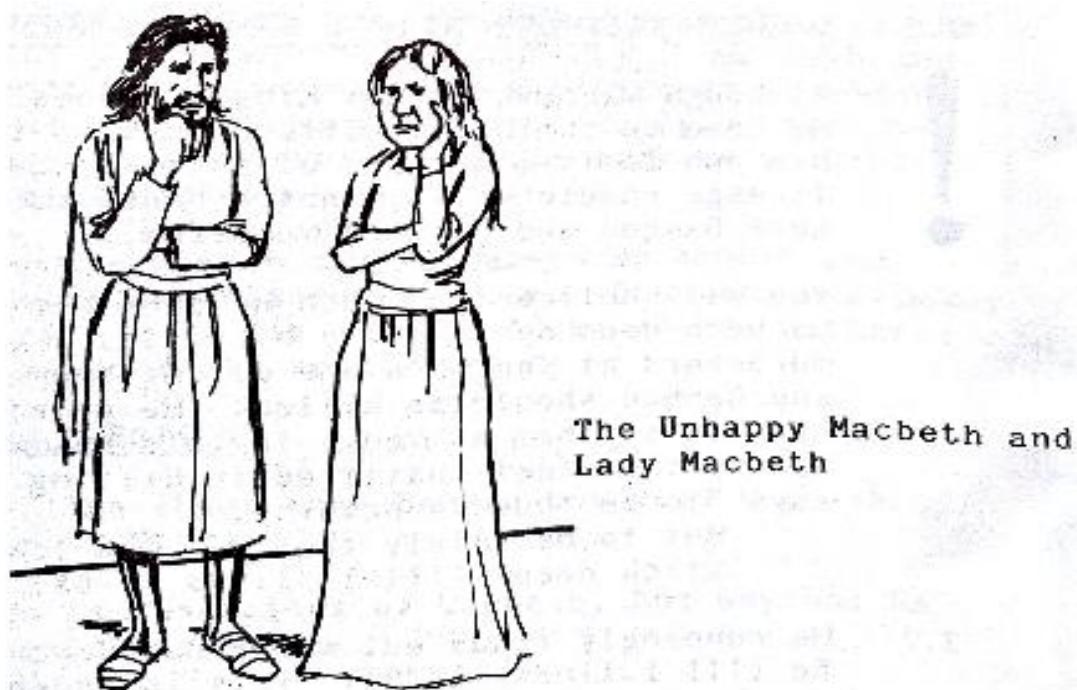
Act 2 Scene 4 begins with Ross and an old man discussing the unnatural events that occurred on the night of Duncan's murder. They learn from Macduff that the king's two sons, Malcolm and Donalbain have fled and that Macbeth has been chosen to be the next king. Macduff says that the servants were the murderers. He also says Malcolm and Donalbain might be involved as they run away like guilty men. In their discussions, Ross and an old man talk about unnatural things that animals have been doing. For example, horses were eating

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

each other. This adds to the spooky atmosphere, that is, a situation that causes fear.

### **Macbeth and Lady Macbeth Fail to Sleep**

Macbeth and his wife realize that the happiness and satisfaction they sought has not been achieved. Banquo still poses a threat. Banquo's qualities of nobility and of his lineage of kings are a threat to Macbeth who feels very insecure. Although Macbeth is now king, he does not feel secure. He becomes further ambitious to keep the kingship in his own family. Because of this, Macbeth thinks Banquo and his son should be killed. This leads to Macbeth's plot to have Banquo and Fleance murdered.



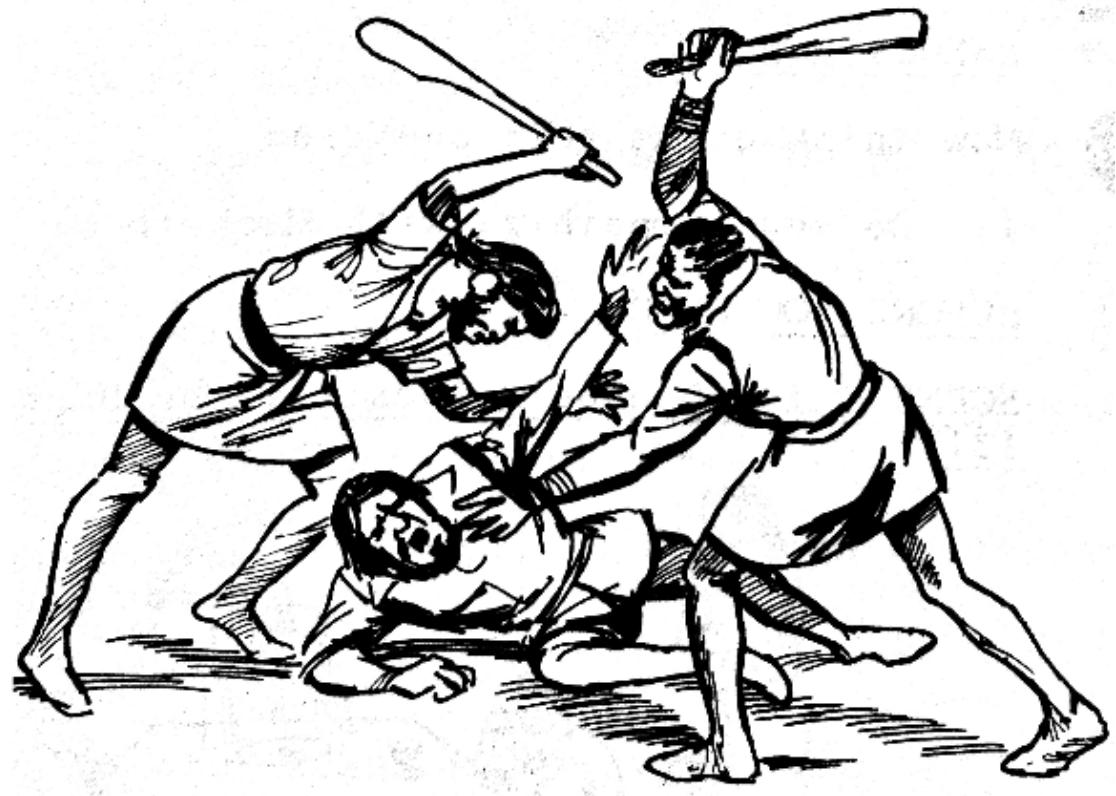
**The Unhappy Macbeth and  
Lady Macbeth**

### **Macbeth Orders Banquo's Murder**

After the murder of king Duncan, Banquo is suspicious of Macbeth. He remembers that this is the fulfillment of the witches' prophecies. Macbeth is crowned king. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth tell Banquo to be their guest of honour at the feast that evening. Banquo explains that he and Fleance will be away and will be back at the castle at night. Macbeth arranges with two murderers to ambush and murder Banquo and his son Fleance.

### **Banquo is Murdered**

Banquo is murdered and his son escapes. This time Macbeth has no any conflict with his conscience as he did when making up his mind to kill Duncan. He is becoming a tyrant hardened by crime.



**Banquo is Murdered**

### **Themes in Act 2**

#### **1. Courage**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. Both of them agree to kill king Duncan. The plan given by Lady Macbeth gives them courage. She says she will get the servants drunk and that they will use the servants' daggers and cover the servants with blood. That way everyone will blame the servants and not the Macbeths. This plan gives them courage to murder king Duncan.

#### **2. Superstition**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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This theme is shown by belief in unnatural events. Ross and an old man talk about unnatural happenings such as Duncan's horses going wild and refusing to obey. They also talk about horses eating each other.

### **3. Greed**

Greed is portrayed by Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. Both of them agree to murder king Duncan. They are not satisfied with what they have. For example, Macbeth is given important positions in Scotland but he continues to kill Duncan. This shows that he is greedy.

### **4. Regrets**

This theme is shown by Macbeth. He tells his wife that he has killed King Duncan but regrets his action. Macbeth states that there is no enough water in the oceans to wash his hands from the blood of King Duncan in his hands.

### **5. Risky Decision**

The theme of risky decision is shown by Macbeth's and Lady Macbeth's acceptance to kill king Duncan. They started living in fear as a result of the consequences like being found out and feeling guilty. For example, Macbeth says that there is no enough water in the oceans to wash his hands from the blood of king Duncan in his hands. Hence, he regrets his actions.

### **6. Love**

Portrayed by Lady Macbeth to her husband, Macbeth. She wanted to make sure that her husband became king. She came up with a plan so that the blame is on the servant and not Macbeth. She took the risk of the highest order for the sake of her husband Macbeth.

### **7. Dramatic Irony**

This is shown by Macbeth who says that if Duncan has been murdered, all good things are gone. This is ironic (Act 2 scene 3, lines 84-89).

### **8. Ambition**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth who does not show any sign of appreciation. He is given important positions such as Thane of Glamis and Thane of cawdor, but he kills King Duncan so that he can be the king of Scotland.

### **9. Deception**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. Macbeth accuses Duncan's servants of killing King Duncan and kills them yet he is the one who killed him. Lady Macbeth gets the servants drunk to kill King Duncan. She paints the servant's faces with Duncan's blood so that they are seen to be guilty. This is dishonesty.

### **Character Analysis**

The main characters in Act 2 are **Macbeth and Lady Macbeth**. The two characters share the same character traits in the Act:

- 1. Courageous:** -Both of them agree to murder King Duncan. Lady Macbeth takes the bloody daggers away from her husband after Macbeth kills Duncan.
- 2. Evil characters:** Despite the good things King Duncan does for them as said by Macbeth, both of them insist on killing King Duncan.
- 3. Quick-spirited and hasty:** This is shown from the speed of their plan in trying to kill King Duncan. When a messenger tells Lady Macbeth that King Duncan is coming to Macbeth's place, Lady Macbeth thinks this is their chance to kill him. She hastily comes up with a plan so that everyone will blame other people and not the Macbeths.

### **Important Expressions in Act 2 Scenes 1-3**

#### **Expression 1**

"I dreamed last night of the three weird sisters. To you they have showed some truth", said Banquo (Act 2 scene 1, line 20)

In this assertion, Banquo means that the Witches' prediction about Macbeth being Thane of cawdor came true.

#### **Expression 2**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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"Go carry them and smear the sleepy servants with blood", said Lady Macbeth. In this statement, Lady Macbeth tells Macbeth that he should smear the sleepy servants with Duncan's blood that people should think the servants killed Duncan (line 50, Act 1 scene 2).

### **Expression 3**

"I'll glid the faces of the servants withal, for it must seem their guilt", said Lady Macbeth (lines 55-60, Act 2 scene 2)

In this expression, Lady Macbeth says she will paint the servants' faces with Duncan's blood so that they should seem guilty.

### **Expression 4**

"Is the stirring worthy Thane?" Said Macduff.

In this statement, Macduff, talks to Macbeth in trying to find out if the king is awake.

### **Expression 5**

"The night has been unruly, the obscure bird clamoured the live long night," said Lennox (lines, 45- 50, Act 2 scene 3).

In this assertion, Lennox means that it was a really stormy night and the owl was hooting all night long.

### **Expression 6**

"Approach the chamber and destroy your sight with a new Gorgon," said Macduff.

"Malcolm, awake shake off this downy sleep death's counterfeit, and look on death itself," said Macduff (line 70, Act 2 scene 3).

In these expressions, Macduff wakes up people who are still sleeping and mentions that someone (Duncan) is really dead.

### **Expression 7**

"O, yet I do repent me of my fury that I did kill them," said Macbeth.

In this statement, Macbeth feels sorry for killing the servants (line 100, Act 2 Scene 3).

### **Expression 8**

"This murderous shaft that's shot hath not yet lighted and our safest way is to avoid the aim," said Malcolm.

In this expression, Malcolm means that something bad is going to happen and the best way to avoid it is not to be at Macbeth's castle. Hence, he decides that he and Donalbain leave the place for their safety.

### **ACT 3 SCENES 1-6**

#### **Macbeth Arranges to Kill Banquo and his Son Fleance**

In Act 3 Scenes 1, 2 and 3, Banquo suspects that Macbeth murdered King Duncan. However, he does not do anything about it. As a result of what the witches said, Macbeth thinks Banquo and his son are a threat to him. So, he hires killers to kill Banquo and his son Freance, but Fleance, escapes. Macbeth is worried that Banquo's son, Fleance will become king.

#### **Banquo's Ghost Turns up**

In Act 3 Scene 4, Macbeth and his wife welcome guests to another state banquet. The ghost of Banquo appears but only Macbeth can see it and his strange behaviour surprises Lady Macbeth and their guests. Banquo's ghost comes back to haunt Macbeth. During the banquet, one of the murderers turns up and tells Macbeth that Banquo is dead, but Fleance is not. Macbeth tells the Lords that he wishes Banquo was there. Banquo's ghost walks in and sits at Macbeth's seat. When Macbeth's strange behaviour surprises guests, Lady Macbeth tries to cover it up. She tells the Thanes not to worry, as Macbeth is often like this and he will get better if they act normally. At first Macbeth does not notice Banquo's ghost. He thinks there are no any free seats. Then when Lennox points to his seat, Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost. Macbeth decides to see the witches. Lady Macbeth tells the Thanes to leave and they do. Macbeth asks why Macduff was not there.

In Scene 5, Hecate meets the witches. Hecate was the witches' leader, a kind of goddess of witchcraft. Hecate tells the witches to meet her in the morning

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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when Macbeth comes to them to ask about his destiny. It is pretty scary that Hecate already knows that Macbeth will come to see them. Scene 6 opens with Lennox talking to another Lord. In their talk, Lennox and unnamed Lord discuss the state of affairs: This time Malcolm is in England and Macduff has gone to join him while the English king is raising an army to fight against Macbeth.

### **Macbeth's Remorse and Fear**

After Duncan's murder Macbeth wrestled with his conscience and feared the immediate consequences: "I am afraid to think what I have done. Every noise appalls me". After Banquo's murder, Macbeth seems to have doubts and fear. He fears the consequences. The happiness he had looked for gets farther and farther away. Each crime increases his remorse and fear. His future is uncertain because Fleance is alive and Macduff does not seem to obey him. This uncertainty causes him to consult the witches.

### **The Witches' Second Prophecies**

The witches have been preparing a mixture of foul things to use for their spells when Macbeth comes to consult them. They agree to answer Macbeth's enquiries. Through the witches' prophecies, Macbeth learns of three things. First, he must be careful about Macduff. Second he will not be harmed by "one born of woman". Third, his safety is guaranteed until Birnamwood comes to Dunsinane Hill. Macduff flees to England. Macbeth decides to kill everyone in Macduff's family.

### **Themes in Act 3**

#### **1. Evil Secrets**

Macbeth plans to kill Banquo without disclosing to his wife. When one of the murderers informs Macbeth about the death of Banquo during the state banquet, he does not inform his wife about the message delivered to him. When Banquo's ghost appears and haunts him, Macbeth shows strange behaviour. His wife tries to cover it up. She tells the guests not to worry and that Macbeth behaves like that and they should just act normally.

## **2. Superstition**

Superstition is portrayed by Macbeth who decides to meet the witches to decide his destiny. When the people are gathered in the state hall for the banquet, only Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost and starts behaving in a strange way. Finally, Lady Macbeth tells the Thanes to leave for their home that marks the end of the banquet.

## **3. Greed**

Greed is shown by Macbeth who is hungry for power. He plans to kill Banquo and his son Fleance because of witches' predictions that Banquo's sons would be kings. For this reason, they are seen to be a threat to him.

## **4. Hatred**

Hatred is portrayed by Macduff and an English king. Macduff goes to England to join Malcolm and convince him to raise an army to get rid of Macbeth. The English king comes up with a decision of raising soldiers to fight against Macbeth. Hence, Macduff and the English king show their hatred towards Macbeth.

## **5. Deception**

Deception is shown by Lady Macbeth who gives a false explanation about Macbeth's queer (strange) behaviour during the feast.

## **Character Analysis**

### **1. Macbeth**

Secretive, crafty and superstitious character: He does not disclose to Lady Macbeth about his plan to kill Banquo. His craftiness is shown when Macbeth says that if Duncan has been murdered, all the good things are gone. He is also superstitious as he decides to meet the witches to decide his destiny.

### **2. Lady Macbeth**

Courageous character: She tells Thanes gathered in the state hall to leave for their homes when Macbeth shows strange behaviour. She tries to convince the guests about Macbeth's strange behaviour. She does this out of courage.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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### **3. Macduff**

He is a courageous and patriotic character: He joins Malcolm and convinces him to raise an army to fight against Macbeth. He sacrifices his life to fight for his country, Scotland. This shows that he is patriotic.

### **Important Expressions in Act 3**

#### **Expression 1**

*"Thanks for that. There the grown serpent lies, the worm that's fled Hath nature that in time will venom breed, no teeth for th' present"*, said Macbeth.

In this statement, Macbeth means that Banquo is dead and his young son will be a problem when he is older and not now.

#### **Expression 2**

*"Here had we now our country's honour roofed, were the graced person of our Banquo present"*, said Macbeth(Act 3 scene 4,line 40).

In this statement, Macbeth means that they would be in the most honoured country if Banquo was present during the state **banquet**.

#### **Expression 3**

*"Do not muse at me most worthy friend. I have a strange infirmity which is nothing to those that know me"*, said Macbeth. (Act 3 scene 4,line 84)

In this assertion, Macbeth tells the guests gathered in the state hall for the banquet that they should not worry he has an illness that makes him behave in a strange way but it is not really a problem.

#### **Expression 4**

*"You have displaced the mirth, broke the good meeting with most admired disorder"*, said Lady Macbeth. (Act 3scene 4 lines 109-110)

In this expression, Lady Macbeth says that Macbeth has ruined the feast by being so weird.

#### **Expression 5**

"I pray you speak not, he grows worse and worse. Questions enrages him. At once, good night. Stand not upon the order of your going. But go at once", said Lady Macbeth.

In this statement, Lady Macbeth tells the guests gathered in the state hall that they should not ask Macbeth some questions. She says questions will make him even worse. Everyone should go at once. People would normally leave in order of importance, but Lady Macbeth tells them all to just go without following the protocol.

#### **ACT 4 SCENES 1-3, ACT 5 SCENE 1**

##### **Macbeth Sees the Witches**

In Act 4 Scene 1, Macbeth meets the witches and promise to answer his questions. They tell him to beware of Macduff, that no man born from a woman can harm him and that he cannot be beaten until Birnamwood moves to Dunsisane Hill. Macbeth is not worried about Macduff because everyone is born from a woman and woods cannot move. He says he will kill Macduff. Lennox tells Macbeth that Macduff has gone to England. Macbeth says he will have Macduff's family killed.

Act 4 Scene 2 opens with the murderers going to kill Macduff's family. A messenger arrives at Macduff's place and tells Lady Macduff to run away. However, it is too late as the murderers rush into the room. The murderers kill Macduff's son and Lady Macduff.

##### **Malcolm Plans to Attack Macbeth**

Act 4 Scene 3 is about events in England. Macduff and Malcolm are in the king's palace discussing the events in Scotland. Macduff's description of the horrors in Scotland is aimed at stirring Malcolm into action against Macbeth. He tries to talk to Malcom about fighting Macbeth so that he becomes the king of Scotland. However, Malcolm pretends he thinks that he would be even worse than Macbeth. Macduff says in that case Malcolm is not fit to live. Malcolm reveals his plans to Macduff. He tells him that he was only testing him, to check if

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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he was not a spy for Macbeth. He is planning to attack Macbeth with the help from the English.

In Act 5 Scene1, Lady Macbeth suffers from guilty conscience. She walks in her sleep, dreams that she and her husband are murdering king Duncan.

### **Ross has Bad News for Macduff**

Ross turns up from Scotland to meet Macduff and Malcom. Macduff asks how his wife and children are. At first, he is hesitant to reveal the murderer of Lay Macduff and children.Later,he says that they have been killed. This leads Malcom and Macduff to plan for revenge.

### **Themes in Act 4 and Act 5, Scene 1**

#### **1. Superstition**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth. He has trust in whatever the witches tell him. He decides to meet the witches to decide his destiny. While meeting the witches, Macbeth is told to beware of Macduff. This shows that he is superstitious.

#### **2. Betrayal**

This is shown by Macduff. He goes to England without informing his wife. Lady Macduff says her husband is a traitor. While Macduff was in England his wife, Lady Macduff and his son were murdered.

#### **3. Patriotism**

Patriotism is shown by Macduff and Malcom. These two sacrifice their lives to fight and die for their country. They plan to fight against Macbeth.

#### **4. Revenge**

This theme is shown by Malcom and Macduff. The two talk about revenge. When Ross discloses to Macduff that his wife and his son are murdered, Macduff and Malcom prepare for a revenge against Macbeth.

#### **5. Loyalty**

This theme is portrayed by Macduff who is loyal to Malcolm. Having seen that Macduff is loyal to him, Malcolm develops confidence in him and the two talk about revenge against Macbeth.

### **Character Analysis**

#### **1. Macbeth**

*Secretive, ambitious and cruel character:* He is secretive because after killing Banquo, he does not disclose to his wife. He is ambitious in the sense that he kills Banquo who is seen to be a threat to him. He wants to ensure that he becomes the only king of Scotland. His cruelty is shown by his quest or interest to kill.

#### **2. Macduff**

*Patriotic, irresponsible, courageous and revengeful character:* He is patriotic as he sacrifices his life to fight and die for his country. He is irresponsible as he goes to England leaving his wife and children alone. He is also revengeful. This is shown by his plans to fight against Macbeth in revenge for the killing of his wife and son.

#### **3. Malcolm**

*Fearful and clever:* When the king is murdered, he is afraid of meeting the same fate as that of his father. He is clever as he deals with people he trusts. For example, he tests Macduff's honesty and loyalty by pretending that he may be a worse ruler than Macbeth.

### **How the Witches' Prophecies Influence Macbeth to Become an Evil Person**

During the witches second appearance in the play, the prophecies please Macbeth. The prophecies say he is the Thane of Glamis, will be Thane of Cawdor and will be "king hereafter". The witches do not give him the details of how each prophecy will be fulfilled. So, Macbeth starts working out how to fulfill the prophecies. The witches help to cultivate evil thoughts in Macbeth and the brave soldier becomes a villain. As a result of the witches' prophecies, Macbeth thinks that the only way he can become king was to kill King Duncan.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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However, after the death of king Duncan, things still do not seem to work well for Macbeth. He seeks for the wisdom of supernatural powers from the witches to tell him what lies in store for him. After meeting the witches, Macbeth learns that he must be careful about Macduff. As a result, Macbeth plans to kill Macduff because he is seen to be a threat to him.

Macbeth was already aware that Malcolm and Macduff had fled to England. So, he goes to consult the witches expecting to hear what he wants. When he is told to be careful about Macduff, he decides to kill Macduff's family. Hence, Macbeth becomes an evil person as a result of witches' prophecies.

### **Important Expressions in Act 4 and Act 5 Scene 1**

#### **Expression 1**

"*Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth: beware Macduff, Beware the Thane of fife.*"

In this statement, the witches disclose to Macbeth that he should beware of Macduff, that no man born from a woman can harm him.

#### **Expression 2**

"*Be bloody, bold and resolute, laugh to scorn the power of man, for none of woman born shall harm Macbeth* (Act 4 scene 1, lines 78-80).

In this expression, Macbeth is made overconfident by the witches' words that he should not be afraid of anyone, because no man born by a woman can hurt him.

#### **Expression 3**

"*Then live, Macduff, what need I fear of thee? But yet I'll make assurance double sure. And take a bond of fate: thou shall not live*", said Macbeth. (Act 4 scene 1, lines 82- 84)

*In this assertion, Macbeth says it does not matter if Macduff lives and he will not be scared of him. He also says he will make sure that he kills him.*

### **ACT 5 SCENES 2-9**

In Act 5 Scene 2, the Thanes Menteith, Caithness, Angus and Lennox meet. They talk about Malcolm and the army he has brought with him. They insult Macbeth

and go to help Malcolm. They mention that Malcolm is near Birnamwood. Birnamwood is the wood that the witches said must move before Macbeth could be defeated.

Act 5 Scene 3 opens with a servant who tells Macbeth about the English army to his castle. A servant tells him that a force of 10,000 English are coming. Macbeth remains confident and says he is not scared because he cannot be killed by any man born from a woman.

This time Lady Macbeth is getting worse. A doctor says that Lady Macbeth is losing her mind. Macbeth is not bothered about it. He puts his armour on, ready for a fight. When he is told of the approaching armies, Macbeth tries to comfort himself by recalling the witches' prophecies. He discusses his wife's condition with the doctor, then leaves for the battle.

In Act 5 Scene 4, the English army gets to Birnamwood. Malcolm says everyman should cut a branch and carry it. Malcolm's soldiers camouflage themselves with branches from the tree of Birnamwood to mask their approach.

### **Lady Macbeth's Sleep-Walking**

This event takes place at the king's castle at Dunsinane. A doctor has come to see Lady Macbeth. Macbeth's Lady attendant tells the doctor about her mistress' sleep-walking. Together, the doctor and the attendant, watch Lady Macbeth as she sleep-walks. She rubs her hands strongly as if she is cleaning them of some dirt. The doctor says he does not know how to deal with her case as it appears to be more mental than physical. Lady Macbeth has obviously changed through the events. She is not the schemer anymore but has become someone haunted by her own crimes. Her mind is disturbed. Therefore, she lacks self-control over what she does and says. Lady Macbeth's mind is disturbed by the surfacing memories of the crimes she has committed. These incidents have become anxieties which torture Lady Macbeth's mind. Her sleep-walking reveals her guilt.

### **Lady Macbeth's Washing of Her Hands**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

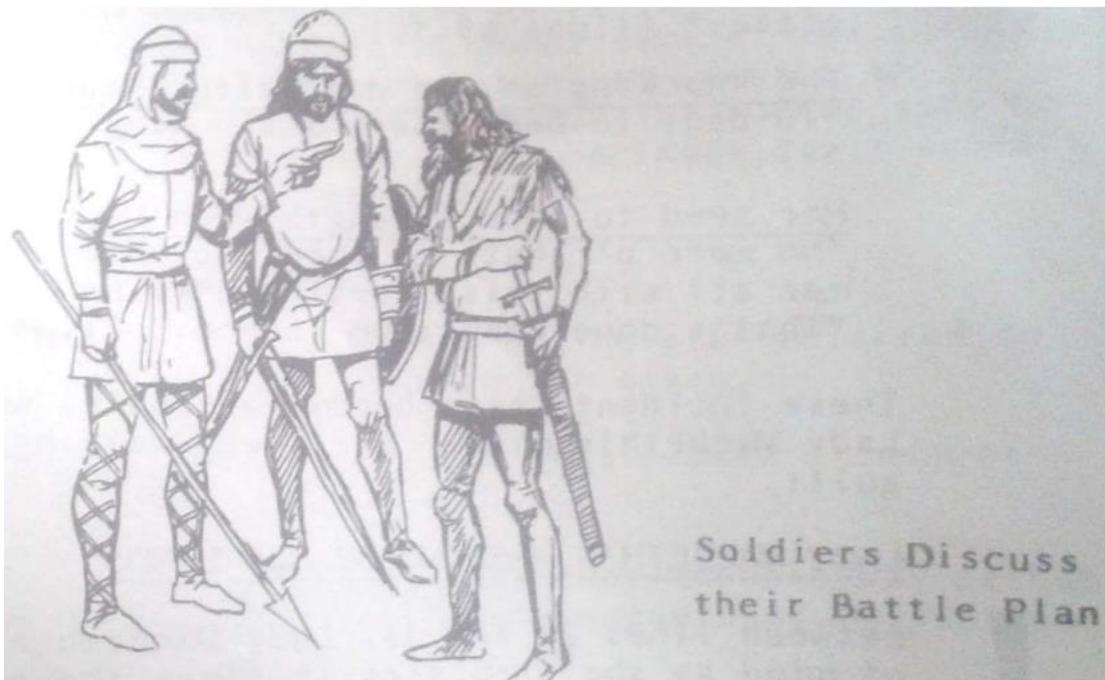
Between lines 28 and 31, Lady Macbeth shows her state of mind as she struggles to clean the blood off her hands. It is an attempt to clear her mind of the crimes she has committed. The “spot” is permanent. Even the light from the candle does not seem to clear it or reduce its intensity for “what’s done cannot be undone”.

### **Lady Macbeth Dies**

When the battle is at its height, Seyton, an officer attending Macbeth, brings news to Macbeth that his wife has just died. Even with this sad news, Macbeth seems not very much bothered.

### **Birnamwood is seen to be moving**

A messenger arrives and says it looks like Birnamwood is moving. Macbeth is worried. He now decides that they will attack rather than try to survive a siege.



### **Forces Prepare to Overthrow Macbeth**

Scottish rebel soldiers are preparing to join the forces of Malcolm from England near Birnam Forest. The Scottish rebel forces are loyal to Scotland and they want to see justice done. They have listed down all the good soldiers who are willing to fight with Malcolm. Macbeth who has killed to become powerful is referred to

as a tyrant. This word is used in this scene to make Macbeth appear very wicked in the eyes of well-meaning soldiers. It also helps to create distrust of Macbeth before the battle.

Macbeth is inside his castle preparing to fight. His messengers tell him that the enemy forces have arrived and are prepared to fight against him. When Seyton confirms that the forces have indeed arrived, Macbeth is not happy and prepares to fight.

### **Soldiers Disguise Themselves in Battle**

The Scottish rebel forces and those of Malcolm from England have combined near Birnamwood. Malcolm orders each soldier to cut a branch from a tree in Birnamwood and carry it in front of him to disguise the number of soldiers as they march to Dunsinane.



Macbeth sees Birnamwood moving, partly fulfilling the witches' prophecies. Macbeth still believes in the second apparition that he will not be defeated by one born of a woman.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

### **Malcolm's Army Attacks**

In Act 5 Scene 6, Malcolm's army reaches Macbeth's castle. The battle starts. Malcolm tells everyone to put down their branches and fight. Siward and his son are to lead, followed by Malcolm and Macduff. Macbeth fights young Siward and wins. Afterwards, Macbeth says that the young man had no chance because he was born of woman. Having killed young Siward, he believes that the end for him has not yet come.

### **Macduff Wants to Kill Macbeth**

Macduff talks to himself saying that he does not want to fight anyone but Macbeth. He also says he does not want Macbeth to be killed by anyone else except him. Macbeth says he cannot be killed by anyone born from a woman. Macduff declares that he was not "of woman born" but was instead "untimely ripped" from his mother's womb. His kind of birth is what we now call birth by cesarean section. Macbeth gets scared and says he does not want to fight. Macduff says if he does not, he will be kept a prisoner. Though Macbeth realizes that he is doomed, he continues to fight until Macduff kills and beheads him. Lastly, Malcolm is proclaimed king.



**Macduff kills Macbeth**

## **Themes in Act 5 Scenes 2-9**

### **1. Revenge**

This theme is shown by Malcolm and Macduff. Malcolm wants to revenge Duncan's killing by Macbeth. He raises the army to fight against Macbeth.

### **2. Sacrifice**

This theme is portrayed by Malcolm and Macduff. They sacrifice to die for their country as they fight in the battle against Macbeth.

### **3. Courage**

This theme is portrayed by Macbeth who encourages himself to fight in the battle when Seyton, an officer attending to Macbeth, brings news to him that his wife has just died. Macbeth is still not bothered.

### **4. Unity/ Solidarity**

This theme is shown by Malcolm, Macduff and the English king. These three get united in order to fight against Macbeth.

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS ON “MACBETH”**

### **A. Contextual/Structural Questions**

1. Explain how insecure Macbeth becomes as king.
2. Why does Macbeth refuse to fight Macduff?
3. Describe Macbeth's dealing with the witches and show their influence upon him.
4. Describe the differences in the reactions of Macbeth and Banquo to the prophecies.
5. State the Witches' prophecies about Macbeth and Banquo.
6. Describe how Macbeth fought in the battle.
7. Explain why Macbeth is honoured.
8. How does Macbeth react to the prophecies?
9. How does Banquo react to the prophecies?
10. Who was named Prince of Cumberland?

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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11. Show how the murder of Duncan affected Macbeth and Lady Macbeth for the rest of their lives.
12. What happened to Macduff's family?
13. Explain why Macbeth goes to consult the witches.
14. How does Macbeth's attitude change when he sees the ghost?
15. How does Lady Macbeth explain her husband's changed attitude?

### **B. Multiple Choice Questions**

Macbeth:

(Aside) *There the grown serpent lies; the worm, that's fled,  
Hath nature that in time will  
Venom breed,  
No teeth for the present.*

1. Who is the “worm” referred to in the quotation above?
  - A. Malcolm
  - B. Donalbain
  - C. Fleance
  - D. Macduff
2. What figure of speech is “worm” as used in the quotation?
  - A. Imagery
  - B. Simile
  - C. Metaphor
  - D. Proverb
3. How has Macbeth murdered sleep?
  - A. He has murdered Duncan in his sleep.
  - B. He has drugged and killed the guards in their sleep.
  - C. Macbeth's troubled conscience will not allow him to sleep peacefully.
  - D. Macbeth has spent sleepless nights planning king Duncan's murder.
4. Just before he dies in the battle Macbeth says, “I will not yield to kiss the ground before young Malcolm's youth as the play ends?”

- A. It is the beginning of a new era of wisdom.
  - B. It is the promise of new hope for the kingdom.
  - C. It is the birth of a new kingdom.
  - D. It is the restoration of legitimate kingship.
5. "thrice to thine and thrice to mine". This statement is an example of
- A. an apostrophe.
  - B. a hyperbole
  - C. a metaphor
  - D. an alliteration
6. The statement "melted as breath into the wind" is an example of
- A. a simile
  - B. a metaphor
  - C. personification
  - D. imagery
7. "...why do you dress me in borrowed robes". This expression is an example of
- A. a hyperbole
  - B. imagery
  - C. a simile
  - D. a metaphor
8. "How, can the devil speak true?" What does this expression mean?
- A. Macbeth realises the witches' first prediction has come true.
  - B. Witches make predictions to Macbeth.
  - C. Witches make prophecies to Macduff.
  - D. Banquo realises the witches' first prediction has come true.
9. "I'll glid the faces of the servants withal, for it must seem their guilt."What does this expression mean?
- A. Macbeth says he will make Duncan's' servants feel guilty.

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

- B. Lady Macbeth says she will paint the servants' faces with Duncan's blood so that they should seem guilty.
- C. Lennox means that he will kill Duncan's servants.
- D. Banquo plans to kill Duncan's servants.
10. "O, yet I do repent me of my fury that I did kill them". What does this statement mean?
- A. Macbeth feels sorry for killing king Duncan.
- B. Lady Macbeth is in sad mood for killing Duncan.
- C. Macduff feels sorry for killing Macbeth.
- D. Macbeth feels sorry for killing the servants.
- C. Essay Questions**
1. Discuss the change in the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as the play progresses **(20 marks)**
  2. With examples from the play "Macbeth", discuss how the following events influence Macbeth to become an evil person:
    - i. the witches' prophecy
    - ii. the death of Duncan**(20 marks)**
  3. In the play "Macbeth", Macbeth's lack of peace of mind is shown from the time he meets the witches to the time he dies. Support this statement with examples from the play. **(20marks)**
  4. The tragedies that befall the characters in "Macbeth" are as a result of Macbeth's evil ambitions.
    - i. To what extent are the two people's evil ambitions responsible for the tragedies in "Macbeth"?
    - ii. Discuss the incidents that encouraged Macbeth to carry out their evil deeds.**(20 marks)**
  5. Contrast the attitudes of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth to Duncan both before and after the assassination **(20 marks)**
  6. Explain the role played by the following characters in the play, "Macbeth".

- i. the witches
  - ii. Macduff **(20 marks)**
7. With examples from the play, "Macbeth" discuss how the following characters influenced the fortunes of Macbeth:
- (i) Duncan
  - (ii) Banquo **(20 marks)**
8. What events in "Macbeth" portray the play as a tragedy? (Discuss eight points). **(20 marks)**
9. With examples from the play "Macbeth" show how the following themes are shown:
- i. greed (discuss four points)
  - ii. superstition (discuss four points) **(20 marks)**
10. Describe the character of the following individuals as Portrayed in the play "Macbeth":
- i. Macbeth
  - ii. Lady Macbeth **(20 marks)**

#### **D. Essay Questions and Model Answers**

1. ***In the play, "Macbeth's lack of peace of mind is shown from the time he meets the witches to the time he dies. Support this statement with examples from the play.***

**(20 marks)**

*In the play "Macbeth", Macbeth's lack of peace of mind is shown from the time he meets the witches to the time he dies. There are several examples from the play that show Macbeth's lack of peace after meeting the witches.*

*Firstly, the prophecy given by the witches that Macbeth would be the Thane of Cawdor confuses him. Macbeth lacks the peace of mind because he does not know how the prophecy will be fulfilled. In addition, he does not know that the old Thane of Cawdor has been demoted.*

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Secondly, Macbeth is confused when the witches tell him that he will become king. He begins to think about ways which he can use for him to become king. Later Macbeth is convinced by his wife to kill King Duncan. He lacks the peace of mind because King Duncan is his friend and a good king.

Thirdly, Macbeth's conscience starts bothering him when he wants to fulfill what the witches prophesied to him. He is planning to kill his king, who is also his guest. Macbeth begins to feel uneasy and leaves the room where Duncan is eating to think of the crime he is about to commit.

In addition to that, Macbeth lacks peace when King Duncan is assassinated. Macbeth wrestles with his conscience and fears immediate consequences. As a result, he and his wife pretend to be upset. Macbeth kills the servants and accuses them of being murderers.

Fourthly, Macbeth is disturbed by the witches' prophecy that Banquo's children will be kings. Banquo's qualities of nobility and of his lineage of kings are a threat to Macbeth. Macbeth and his wife realize that the happiness and satisfaction they sought has not been achieved. Macbeth lacks peace of mind because Banquo still poses a threat.

Fifthly, Macbeth has no peace after Banquo's murder. Banquo's ghost starts appearing to him while at the feast. He starts behaving strangely and this surprises Lady Macbeth and the guests.

Macbeth also lacks peace of mind when Fleance, the son of Banquo escapes. Fleance's escape disappoints Macbeth because the witches had prophesied that Banquo's sons will be kings. This disturbs him and he cannot rest peacefully any more.

In addition to that, Macbeth consulting the witches shows that he lacks peace of mind. Macduff does not seem to obey him. Macbeth has questioned Macduff's absence from the banquet. This causes him to consult the witches for guidance.

Lastly, Macduff's departure to England also causes him to have no peace of mind. Macbeth feels that Macduff does not want to obey him. Macduff's departure for England has raised suspicion and fear in Macbeth that he might have gone to England to raise an army to fight against him. As a result, Macbeth kills Macduff's family.

**2. Describe the character of each of the following using four points**

i. **Macbeth**

ii. **Lady Macbeth**

Macbeth is an important character in the play "Macbeth". The character of Macbeth is shown in the following examples:

Firstly, Macbeth is patriotic. He serves as an army commander. He sacrifices his life to fight in defense of Scotland and King Duncan.

Secondly, Macbeth is an ambitious character. When he is informed that he has been appointed Thane of Cowdor, he says the greatest position awaits him. He is ambitious to become king.

Thirdly, Macbeth is brave. He bravely fights in the battle against Norway. He also kills King Duncan. Later, he faces MacDuff in the battle without fear.

Lastly, Macbeth is a deceitful character. After killing King Duncan, Macbeth makes himself appear good. He also avenges the king's death by killing the attendants to King Duncan.

Lady Macbeth is another important character in the play 'Macbeth'. The character of Lady Macbeth is shown through the following examples:

Firstly, Lady Macbeth is an ambitious character. She is happy to hear that witches have prophesied that Macbeth will become a king. She encourages her husband to fulfill his ambition of becoming King of Scotland. She also helps her husband to devise plans of killing King Duncan.

Secondly, Lady Macbeth is deceitful. Lady Macbeth pretends to be good to King Duncan at the castle. She welcomes him with respect and honour while she and her husband have planned to kill him. She also deceives guests at the

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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banquet that Macbeth often behaves strangely. In fact, Macbeth is disturbed by the appearance of Banquo's ghost.

Fourthly, Lady Macbeth is courageous. She encourages her nervous husband to kill King Duncan. After killing King Duncan, she also takes away bloody daggers.

Lastly, Lady Macbeth is portrayed as an evil character. Despite the good things Duncan does them, she insists on killing King Duncan. After killing King Duncan, she covers the servants with blood and make it seem that the servants did it. In that way, everyone blames the servants and not Macbeth.

### **PART2 THE PEARL BY JOHN STEINBECK**

#### **Introduction**

John Steinbeck was born in Salinas, California, in 1902. He grew up in a fertile agricultural valley, about twenty-five miles from the pacific coast. In 1919 he went to Stanford University where he enrolled in literature and writing courses until he left the University in 1925 without taking a degree. The following five years, John Steinbeck supported himself as a labourer and journalist in New York city while working on his first novel called **Cup of Gold** (1929). After marriage, he published two Californian fictions, "The Pastures of Heaven (1933). The Pearl is categorized as a novel. Based on the prologue or its beginning, the story is a parable. It is mentioned that, "in the town that...". A parable is a short fictitious story that shows a moral attitude or principle. For this reason, the intention of the writer is to expose a moral attitude or principle about greed, wealth and its evils.

#### **The Plot of "The Pearl"**

The novel, "The pearl" opens with Kino, a young Mexican-Indian diver married to Juana. The two have a baby named Coyotito. Kino, Juana and Coyotito live in a modest brush house by the sea. One day, a scorpion stings Coyotito. In trying to protect their baby, Kino and Juana decide to go to the doctor in town for treatment. While there, the doctor does not assist them because they cannot pay him as much as he wants. The plot continues with Kino going to work diving

*in the Gulf for oysters from his canoe. While diving, Kino finds a pearl and news of his discovery reaches his village and the town. The doctor visits Kino and Juana and tricks them into allowing him to treat Coyotito. He claims that the baby is his patient yet previously he refused to help Coyotito.*

*The priest also arrives at Kino and Juana's hut and tells Kino that he needs to give thanks for finding the pearl. Juana tends to Coyotito in the canoe by applying brown seaweed to his shoulder which is swollen from the scorpion's sting. When Juana tries to check on Coyotito, she discovers that Coyotito's shoulder is no longer swollen.*

*The doctor told Kino that he was not present when Kino and his wife visited him to have the baby Coyotito treated of the scorpion's sting. He said, "I was not in when you came this morning. But now, at the first chance, I have come to see the baby". After visiting Kino, the doctor makes Coyotito sick so that he can then cure the baby and get paid more. Coyotito, indeed gets sick and the doctor returns and gives the baby a different medicine that cures the baby. When the doctor asks Kino for payment, Kino says that his plan is to sell the pearl the next day. The doctor offers to keep the pearl for Kino and Kino refuses. The doctor tricks Kino to reveal where he has hidden the pearl.*

*The plot continues with Kino and Juana begin the trip to the pearl dealers in order to sell the pearl. Juana senses that the pearl is evil and begs Kino to throw the pearl back into the sea, but Kino refuses. He believes still that the pearl will give them better lives than they have. Kino and Juana reach the beach where Kino offers the pearl to Juana to throw it in the sea. She refuses and tells Kino to do it himself. Kino throws the pearl as far out into the sea. It sinks to the sand bottom among the fern-like plants*

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **Kino and Juana Living in Brush House**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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The chapter introduces the family of Kino. His wife is called Juana. Kino and Juana are blessed with a baby named Coyotito. Kino's family lives in a brush house by the sea.

### **Scorpion stings Coyotito**

In this chapter, a scorpion stings Coyotito. In trying to assist her son, Juana tells Kino to go to town and get the doctor. Kino tells Juana that the doctor cannot come. When Kino and their neighbours tell Juana that the doctor cannot come to where they live, Juana decides to take matters into her own hands and sets off with Coyotito to the doctor. Kino and many members of the village decide to accompany Juana to see what will happen.

### **Kino, Juana and Neighbors Arrive at Doctor's House**

While at the doctor's gate, Kino hesitates for a moment to meet doctor's servant. This is because the doctor is of a race which for nearly four hundred years had beaten despised Kino's race. Kino talks to doctor's servant and said, "The little one the first born has been poisoned by the scorpion, he requires the skill of the healer" (page 12).

When the servant informs the doctor how Coyotito got sick he said, "It is a little Indian with a baby. He says "a scorpion stung it"(page 13). The doctor responds with the following words: "Have I nothing better to do than cure insect bites for little Indians? I am a doctor, not a veterinary. Has he any money?" the doctor demanded. The servant responds that they have no money.

At the doctor's house, the doctor's servant tells Kino and Juana that the doctor is not at home. However, the truth is that the doctor is home but cannot help Coyotito because Kino cannot pay the doctor as much as the doctor wants. The doctor is also prejudiced against Kino's race.

### **Themes**

#### **1. Unity/ Solidarity**

This theme is portrayed by Kino's relatives and neighbours. When Coyotito is stung by a scorpion, they join Kino and Juana on their way to the doctor's house so that the baby should have treatment.

## **2. Greed for Money**

Greed for money is shown by the doctor. He demands money to be paid for Coyotito to have treatment for a scorpion's sting.

## **3. Poverty**

Poverty is shown in Kino's family. Kino and Juana do not have money to pay to the doctor so that their son should have treatment for a scorpion's sting. Kino works as a pearl diver in trying to live a better life.

## **4. Cruelty**

Cruelty is portrayed by the doctor. He shows his cruelty by producing the following words: "Have I nothing better to do than cure insect bites for little Indians? I am a doctor, not a veterinary" (page 13). He refuses to assist Kino and Juana when they fail to pay the money to him so that their son should be healed.

### **Questions**

1. Briefly explain how Coyotito becomes sick.
2. Explain why the doctor refuses to cure Coyotito.
3. Why is Kino hesitant to meet the doctor?
4. What two events in this chapter expose the doctor as a cruel person?

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **Kino Finds a Pearl**

This chapter opens with Kino who goes to work diving in the Gulf for oysters from his canoe. He finds the canoe through his grandfather who brought it from Nayarit to Kino's father and so it has come to Kino. It was once a property and source of food, for a man with a boat can guarantee a woman that she will eat something. Juana prays that they find a pearl with which to hire the doctor to cure the baby. She tends to Coyotito in the canoe by applying brown seaweed

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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to his shoulder, which is swollen from the scorpion's sting. When Kino is collecting oysters on the ocean bottom, he finds a larger than usual oyster. He collects it and returns to the canoe. When he checks the oyster, he finds a pearl the size of a sea-gull's egg. It is the greatest pearl in the world.

### **Juana Checks on Coyotito**

Juana gazes at a large pearl and she then goes to check on Coyotito and discovers that Coyotito's shoulder is no longer swollen. Kino is happy about both the pearl and Coyotito and shouts loudly enough that he attracts the attention of the other oyster divers who race towards his canoe.

### **Themes**

#### **1. Importance of Prayer**

This is shown by prayers conducted by Juana. She had prayed that they might find a pearl with which to hire the doctor to cure the baby (page 17). After having prayers, Kino manages to find a large pearl which is referred to as the pearl of the world.

#### **2. Curiosity**

Curiosity is portrayed by discovery of a large pearl which appears to be very strange. This attracts the attention of a number of people such as other pearl divers and neighbours.

### **Questions**

1. Who finds the pearl?
2. What medication does Juana provide in her attempt to heal her son from a scorpion's sting?
3. Explain in detail Kino and Juana's simple life before and after the discovery of the pearl.
4. What events in this chapter expose Kino as responsible husband?

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **The News of Kino's Discovery of the Pearl**

Before Kino reaches home with his great pearl, the news of his discovery has already reached his village and the town. Everyone fantasizes what he will do with the wealth that the pearl represents. A number of people arrive at Kino and Juana's hut including the doctor, who previously refused to help Coyotito. The doctor now says that the baby is his patient.

### **The Priest Arrives at Kino's House**

The priest arrives at Kino and Juana's hut and tells Kino that he needs to give thanks for finding the pearl. He also tells Kino that he should remember to make some contributions to him for finding the pearl. The priest said, "It has come to me that thou wilt remember to give thanks my son to him who has given thee this treasure and to pray for guidance in the future" (page 29).

The doctor also visits Kino and Juana and tries to trick them into allowing him to treat Coyotito even though Kino knows that Coyotito is already cured. In fact, what the doctor wants is to make Coyotito sick so that he can then cure the baby and get paid more. Coyotito indeed gets sick and the doctor returns and gives the baby a different medicine that cures the baby. When the doctor asks Kino for payment, Kino says that his plan is to sell the pearl the next day. The doctor offers to keep the pearl for Kino and Kino refuses. The doctor tricks Kino to reveal where he has hidden the pearl. "Do you keep this pearl in a safe place? Perhaps you would like me to put it in my safe?" The doctor said (page 36). That night, Kino hears someone in the hut, draws his knife and strikes out at the figure and draws blood. However, he is hit over the head with a heavy object. Juana senses that the pearl is evil and begs Kino to throw the pearl back into the sea, but Kino refuses believing still that the pearl will give them better lives than they have.

### **Themes**

#### **1. Curiosity**

Portrayed by the priest and the doctor who had interest in the pearl of Kino. For instance, the doctor even offered to keep the pearl for Kino, "Do you keep this

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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pearl in a safe place? Perhaps you would like me to put it in my safe?" (page 36).

### **2. Greed for money**

This theme is shown by the priest and the doctor. The priest wants to have a share of the money obtained after selling the pearl. He said, "I hope thou wilt remember to give thanks, my son to him who has given thee this treasure and to pray for guidance in the future." The doctor also makes Coyotito very sick and returns and gives the baby a different medicine that cures Coyotito so that he gets paid more.

### **3. Excitement**

People were excited about the news of discovery of the Kino's pearl. A number of people flocked to Kino's hut.

### **4. Hypocrisy**

Hypocrisy is portrayed by the priest and the doctor. The priest visits Kino's brush house pretending to thank him for finding the pearl yet he wants to have a share in the money obtained after selling the pearl. The doctor also pretends that Coyotito is his patient and wants to cure the baby. Yet, when the baby was taken to his home for treatment he produced the following words: "Have I nothing better to do than cure insect bites for little Indians? I am a doctor, not a veterinary", Has he any money?" I, alone in the world am supposed to work for nothing and I am tired of it." This shows that both the priest and the doctor are hypocrites.

### **5. Crossing the Bridge before Reaching it**

This is portrayed by Kino and other people who are excited about the discovery of the pearl. After finding the pearl, Kino's immediate thought is to have Coyotito go to school. Later, it is discovered that the pearl is evil and it is thrown back into the sea. Other people such as the priest, the doctor and Kino's brother, Juan Tomas just to mention a few, are also excited.

### **Questions**

1. Briefly explain why the people flock to Kino's hut.
2. Once Kino finds the pearl, what is his immediate thought?
3. Why does somebody walk into Kino's brush house?
4. Describe the character of Kino in this chapter.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### Kino Goes to Sell His Pearl

On the day that Kino plans to sell his pearl, the other divers do not go diving. Kino and Juana begin the trip to the pearl dealers. They are followed by the entire village. The first pearl dealer to whom Kino offers to sell the pearl offers Kino a small amount of money for the pearl. He says that the pearl is too big and no one else will buy it. The first pearl dealer offers Kino a thousand pesos. When the price is mentioned, Kino's face grows dark and dangerous because he needs fifty thousand pesos (page 49). The first pearl dealer informs other pearl dealers in town to come to his office and appraise the pearl.

### Three Pearl Dealers Arrive

When the three new pearl dealers arrive at the office, the three of them have already planned together what each will offer Kino. Kino realizes that the pearl dealers are working together to get the pearl for the small amount of money. He then says that he will go to the capital to sell his pearl. The first pearl dealer raises his offer to buy the pearl, but it is too late. Kino leaves. Back in the village, Kino's neighbours discuss whether or not Kino should have accepted the main dealer's last offer.

### Juana Begs Kino to Throw the Pearl

During the night, Kino hears the noise outside the hut and goes outside to check on what is the noise is all about. Juana listens inside the hut to Kino's being attacked. She rushes out with a brick to help him, but it is too late. Kino is in blood being beaten by the attackers. The attackers have escaped without Kino being able to identify them. Like the previous night, Juana begs Kino to throw the pearl back into the sea, but again he refuses to accept Juana's request. He says if the

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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pearl is sold, the money will be used to fund Coyotito's education. He decides to sell the pearl in the capital.

### **Themes**

#### **1. Friendship**

This theme is portrayed by Kino's neighbours who accompany Kino and Juana to pearl dealers so that Kino should sell his pearl (page 44).

#### **2. Unity / Solidarity**

This theme is shown by other pearl divers who do not go diving but join Kino and his wife. When Kino refuses to accept the prices offered to him for the pearl, other pearl divers are very happy and they say, "Kino is a brave man and a fierce man, he is right. From his courage we may all profit" (page 52).

#### **3. Courage**

Courage is portrayed by Kino and his wife, Juana. Kino decides to fight against attackers and does not want to lose his pearl. Juana, seeing that Kino is being attacked, she rushes out with a brick to help him but it is too late. She finds that Kino is beaten up by unidentified attackers.

#### **4. Greed**

This theme is portrayed by the pearl dealers who offer small amount of money for the pearl so that they should sell it to other dealers at a higher price. The dealers have already planned what each would offer Kino. This shows that the dealers are greedy. It is also shown by the attackers who come to Kino's hut and attacks Kino so that they should have the pearl and sell it to the pearl dealers. These attackers are not wishing Kino well. What they need is to benefit from Kino's pearl.

### **Questions**

1. In what way is Kino and Juana affected by the discovery of the pearl?
2. Briefly explain why Kino refuses the price offered by the first pearl dealer.
3. In this chapter, show how the theme of unity is portrayed.
4. Give one reason why attackers arrive at Kino's hut.

5. Why does Juana decide to throw the pearl into the water?

## CHAPTER FIVE

### Juana Decides to Throw the Pearl into the Water

Juana rises in the dark, takes the pearl from the hut and goes to the beach. Kino follows her and catches up with her at the beach just as she is ready to throw the pearl into the water. He beats her and saves the pearl from being thrown into water, but he is then attacked by some figures he cannot identify. The pearl is knocked from his hands, but he is able to stab one of his attackers before he is knocked unconscious. Juana regains consciousness and finds Kino lying unconscious and a dead stranger next to him.

### Kino and Juana Plan to Run Away

When Kino regains consciousness, Juana returns the pearl to him from where she found it lying behind a rock. She tells him that they must run away from the village because Kino has killed a man. Juana leaves to gather their belongings. While Kino goes to check on their canoe, he finds that a large hole has been smashed into its bottom. As they approach their hut, they see it burning in flames. Taking Coyotito, they go to Kino's brother's hut and spend the day hiding there. Kino's brother, Juan Tomas, lets the other villagers think Kino and his family have run away. Kino continues to believe that the pearl is not something evil but instead thinks of a more promising future for him and his family.

### Themes

#### 1. *Superstition*

Superstition is portrayed by Juana. She believes that the pearl is associated with evil and decides to throw it into the sea.

#### 2. *Love*

This theme is shown by Juana. She takes care of her husband like a child when Kino is attacked by unidentified figure. When she is beaten up by Kino because of trying to throw the pearl into the water, she shows no anger for Kino (page 58).

#### 3. *Courage*

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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Courage is shown by Kino. He fights against unidentified attackers and kills one of the attackers.

### **Questions**

1. Describe the character of Kino in this chapter.
2. Describe how the following themes are portrayed in the chapter.
  - (a) love
  - (b) superstition
3. Briefly explain why Kino and his family run away from their brush house.
4. Why does Juana decide to throw the pearl into the water?
5. Explain why Kino is hesitant to accept the request of Juana to throw the pearl into the water.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **Kino and His Family Leave for Loreto**

Kino and his family leave their village at night and head towards Loreto. Kino is careful to make sure that they leave no tracks that they will be followed by some people because of that pearl's great value. Because they are travelling at night, the next dawn they conceal themselves and settle down for the day. Juana and Coyotito fall asleep and soon Kino does too. He is suddenly awakened by the noise. He creeps out from where they are hiding and sees trackers who are following them. Once the trackers pass by the hiding place, Kino and his family head toward high mountains.

### **Kino and His Family Go to the Mountains**

When they reach the first rise of the mountains, Kino tries to convince Juana to hide with Coyotito while he leads the attackers away. However, Joana refuses. So, they head higher up the mountains to where Kino finds a stream. While there, Kino hides Juana and Coyotito in a small cave and makes false tracks up the side of the mountain, hoping to mislead the trackers. Having reached there, he hides in the cave with his family.

### **The Trackers Arrive at The Spring**

The trackers arrive at the spring and make camp for the night. When Kino realizes that the trackers will discover them in the morning, he vows to attack them before they attack him and his family. As he moves more closely to the trackers' campfire, one of the trackers who is keeping watch aims his gun toward where he has heard a cry in the night and fires his gun. Kino jumps on the tracker and kills him with his knife. Kino grabs the dead tracker's gun and shoots a second tracker. The third tracker scrambles away from Kino, but Kino shoots and kills him as well. He then hears the sounds of Juana's crying. Coyotito has been killed by watcher's gunfire.

### **Kino Decides to Throw the Pearl**

Later that day in the afternoon, Kino and Juana walk side by side into the town, with Juana carrying a bundle that contains the dead Coyotito. People watch in silence as the two walk silently as in a trance.

Kino and Juana reach the beach, where Kino offers the pearl to Juana to throw it into the sea. She refuses and tells Kino that he should be the one to throw it into the water. He cocks his arm and throws the pearl into the sea and it settles down on the sand bottom among the fern-like plants (page 89).

## **Themes**

### **1. Greed**

This theme is portrayed by the three trackers who keep on following Kino and his family in order for them to rob the pearl from Kino.

### **2. Courage**

Courage is shown by Kino who fought courageously against trackers and killed all of them in the fight.

### **3. Hope and Plans**

This is shown by Kino who has hope and good plans after the sale of the pearl. His immediate thought is to have Coyotito go to school. He also hopes that the pearl will give them better lives than they have.

## **Character Analysis**

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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### **1. Kino**

Courageous, hardworking, ambitious, short-tempered and persevering character: He defends his family from the people attacking him and his family. He is hardworking as he works as a pearl diver in order to support his family. He is also ambitious as he wants Coyotito to go to school and desires his family to have a better life.

### **2. Juana**

Courageous, loving and foresighted character: When the attackers come to their hut and attack Kino, she rushes out with a brick to help Kino. This shows her courage. She is a loving wife as she shows no anger when Kino beats her up and her face gets bruised. She is foresighted as she can easily predict the future. She advises Kino that the pearl is evil and should be thrown into the sea.

### **3. The Doctor**

Cruel, hypocritical and greedy character: His cruelty is shown when he refuses to cure Coyotito because the parents do not have money for the treatment. He is also a greedy person. He comes to Kino's hut and pretends that he wants to cure Coyotito while his real aim was to benefit from the pearl.

### **4. The Priest**

Hypocritical and greedy character: He arrives at Kino's hut and tells him that he needs to give thanks for finding the pearl yet he wants to benefit from the pearl. He said, "I hope thou wilt remember to give thanks, my son to him who has given thee this treasure pray for guidance in the future"

### **5. Juan Tomas**

Loving and sympathetic character: He supports Kino in all of his endeavors but warns him of the dangers involved in possessing such a valuable pearl. He is also sympathetic to Kino and Juana. He allows them to hide in his hut and tells no one of their whereabouts.

### **6. Apolonia**

*Loving and sympathetic character:* Like her husband Juan Tomas, Apolonia is sympathetic to Kino and Juana. She agrees to give them shelter in their time of need.

## **7. Pearl Dealers**

*Corrupt and greedy characters:* They systematically cheat and exploit the Indian pearl divers who sell them their goods. They desperately long to cheat Kino out of his pearl. These pearl dealers are always working together to get the pearl for the small amount of money.

## **8. Trackers**

*Greedy and ruthless characters.* Like the pearl dealers, they are greedy people as they aim to get the pearl from Kino. They are ruthless because they leave the village with an aim to kill Kino and rob him of his pearl.

### **Chapter Questions**

1. How does Coyotito die?
2. Describe how the theme of curiosity is portrayed in the book "The Pearl"
3. Describe the character of each of the following using four points:
  - i. The French Doctor
  - ii. The native Indians
4. Describe the character of the following individuals as portrayed in the book "The Pearl"
  - i. Kino
  - ii. Juana

### **REVIEW QUESTIONS ON "THE PEARL"**

#### **A. Multiple Choice**

1. What shows that the Priest is greedy?
  - A. He thanks Kino for finding the pearl
  - B. He comes to Kino's hut to play for him
  - C. He wants to benefit from the pearl
  - D. He heals Kino's Child
2. Which of the following brings hypocrisy in the novel?
  - A. The pearl

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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- B. Religion
  - C. The pearl dealers
  - D. Trackers
3. Who finds the Pearl?
- A. The doctor
  - B. Kino
  - C. Juana
  - D. Coyotito
4. How does Coyotito become sick?
- A. He has the flu
  - B. He has a cold
  - C. He was suffering from malaria
  - D. He was bitten by a scorpion
5. Why does someone walk into Kino's hut?
- A. To search for money
  - B. To kidnap Coyotito
  - C. To steal all their corn
  - D. To steal the pearl
6. Once Kino finds the Pearl, what is his immediate thought?
- A. To make contributions to the church
  - B. To buy a car
  - C. A vocation to Britain, London
  - D. To have Coyotito go to school
7. How does Coyotito die?
- A. Stabbed to death by a neighbour
  - B. His wound from a scorpion slowly killed him
  - C. He had a violent cold
  - D. He was shot in the head by a rifleman.
8. How much Pesos does Kino and Juana sell the pearl for?
- A. 500 pesos
  - B. 1,000 pesos
  - C. 2,000 pesos

- D. They didn't sell it
9. What lesson can be drawn from the novel "The Pearl by John Steinbeck"?
- A. Never share
  - B. Trust the people around you
  - C. Always be greedy
  - D. When poverty strikes friends run away.
10. In the novel, "The Pearl" what supports the statement that "when poverty strikes friends run away".
- A. Kino sells his pearl at higher price.
  - B. Pearl divers escort Kino to pearl buyers.
  - C. Neighbours and relatives accompany Kino to Pearl dealers.
  - D. Neighbours and relatives disperse when Kino fails to sell the pearl.

**B. Essay questions**

1. Discuss how the following themes are shown in the book "The Pearl".
  - i. Hope
  - ii. Poverty
2. Based on the book "The Pearl", discuss the fears that Kino and his family face.
3. Using examples from the book "The Pearl", show the truth of the saying that 'What you see is not always what you get.'
4. From the book "The Pearl", describe the characters that are good and those that are evil.
5. Describe the misfortunes that "Kino's family faces as a result of the pearl."
6. Based on the book "The Pearl", in what way do the following characters show courage.
  - i. Kino
  - ii. Juana

**C. Essay Question and Model Answer**

**Discuss eight points that show how the theme of greed is portrayed in the book "The Pearl".**

Greed as a theme in the book "The Pearl" is portrayed through several characters. First, greed is shown by the local village priest. He is interested in exploiting Kino's wealth. He hopes to persuade Kino to give him some of the money that he will make

## **MSCE ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY GUIDE (MACBETH AND THE PEARL)**

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from the pearl. He tells Kino that he should remember to make some contributions to the church as a way of thanking God for finding the pearl.

Greed is also shown through the actions of the doctor. The doctor tricks Kino and Juana by asking them to allow him treat Coyotito even though Kino knows that Coyotito is already cured. In fact, the doctor makes Coyotito sick so that he cures him and demands a huge payment.

The pearl divers are also greedy. After Kino's discovery of the pearl, Kino's friends did not go diving. Instead, they gather at Kino's hut. They also escorted Kino when he went to sell his pearl. They were interested in Kino's wealth and did not want Kino and his family alone to benefit from the pearl.

Greed is also shown by Kino's neighbours in the brush houses. They also accompany Kino as he goes to sell his pearl. The neighbours did not want Kino to benefit from the pearl alone. They expected Kino to give them part of the money realised from the sale of the pearl.

The actions of shopkeepers also show greed. When they hear that Kino has found the pearl, they become excited about the news. They think of the goods that they expect to sell, and they expect that the money realised from the sale of the pearl will be theirs. The pearl dealers are also greedy. They agree to offer small amounts of money to buy the pearl. In fact, they want to benefit more from the pearl by selling at a higher price to other pearl dealers.

Greed is also portrayed by trackers who follow Kino and Juana when they leave the village. The trackers are armed with dangerous weapons and are ready to kill. The trackers hope to rob Kino of his pearl that they benefit from it.

Lastly, Kino also develops greed. He does not want others to benefit more from the pearl, apart from his family. He rejects the small amounts offered by the buyers and protects the pearl from loss. He leaves the village so that the pearl benefits his family alone.