

Home Learning – Mrs Ward: Week Beginning 23rd March Class 5/6 and Class 6

ENGLISH – All work can be done on paper if you are unable to print out the accompanying sheets. These can just be used on screen as a prompt/support. All resources are included in this document – these are colour coded in **RED** on this plan.

Monday:

Macbeth – Watch episode 6: **Something Wicked this way comes...**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks2-macbeth-6/zvt9rj6>

Watch episode 7: **Preparing for Battle**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks2-macbeth-7/zj9p6v4>

Imagine how Lady Macbeth is feeling. Why does she seem to be losing her mind?

Can you create a timeline of events from the point of view of Lady Macbeth?; What has happened in the story? How have her feelings changed over the course of the story? How has her relationship with her husband changed over the course of the story?

Start with: **Lady Macbeth learns that her husband has spoken to the witches and prophesised...**

Tuesday:

Reading Comprehension Questions:

What is a 'tyrant'? Can you think of any other kings or rulers who are/were 'tyrants'?

Watch episode 7: **Birnam Wood comes to Dunsinane** - the final episode of Macbeth

Main activity

- Write a newspaper article about the Battle of Dunsinane. Firstly, mind-map what you will need to include in the story: - details of Macbeth's reign of terror and crimes - details of the witches' predictions that Macbeth would not be killed by anyone born of woman or until the woods rose up against him - details of the fate of Lady Macbeth (ie that she went mad and died) - details of Macduff's victory and how he sliced Macbeth's head off! - details of Malcolm as the new King of Scotland

- *You may need to remind children of the key features of a newspaper article. The following hyperlinked prezi presentation contains a summary of the main features:*

<https://prezi.com/saicg4scvzix/newspaper-articles-features/>

- Think about how to include interviews with key witnesses - Macduff? Malcolm? The Witches? - through the use of reported and direct speech.

Wednesday:

Revisit: Can you put the '**mixed up plot**' into the right order?

Thinking about all the work we have done on Macbeth; do you think Macbeth is tragic hero or a dastardly villain?

(Tragic hero - a great or virtuous character in a dramatic tragedy who is destined for downfall, suffering, or defeat:)

Can you add evidence for both arguments from what we have read to the **evidence sheet**.

Thursday:

Simplify (*): Children use their plans from yesterday to write their argument stating whether or not Macbeth is a hero or a villain.	Expect (*): Children use their plans from yesterday to write their <u>balanced</u> argument as to whether Macbeth is a tragic hero or dastardly villain	Extend (*): Children use their plans from yesterday to write their balanced argument as to whether Macbeth is a tragic hero or dastardly villain. Challenge children to use a full range of ambitious punctuation and check work to ensure that sentences are being started in a variety of ways/a variety of clause structures are being used.
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TOP TIP!

*When writing a balanced argument it is a good idea to use two different coloured pens, e.g. black and blue. You can write all of your arguments for their statement in one colour and those reasons against in the other. It is a good visual way to help you to keep the balance – I have included an **example Balanced Argument** to help*

Friday:

Spelling Activity Sheet:

Statutory Spelling Activity Booklet: Page 2

Grammar Activity:

Spag.com – Y6: Direct Speech Punctuation (A)

Y5: Direct Speech Punctuation (B)

ART AND DESIGN PROJECT:

Medieval Art: Decorated alphabets were central to medieval 'alphabet books'. These are 'pattern books' that feature alphabets written or drawn in different fonts and featuring various styles of decoration.

Have a look at the Medieval Alphabet sheets on TWINKL: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t3-h-008-medieval-alphabet-sheets> Can you design your own initials in a medieval style? You could sketch your own copy of those on the alphabet sheets or design one of your very own.

RE PROJECT:

Whilst you are at home during LENT I am going to set you An Acts of Kindness Challenge – there will be one each week and you will need to keep a list of which ones you managed to 'tick off', who this was showing kindness to and how it made you feel



This week's challenge

Newspaper Checklist

Headline:

- Short and snappy
- Can use: pun, alliteration, word play

Orientation

- Two or three sentences that tell the story in a nutshell
- Orientations answer the following questions: What? When? Where? Who?

Main body of text

- Tells the story in more detail
- Written in past tense
- Language is formal/impersonal – don't use personal pronouns or give author's opinion.
- Includes interviews with eye witnesses – a mixture of direct and reported speech
- Interviewees need to be given their full name, age and in some cases, their residence. Include these details in between commas

Reorientation

- This brings us up to speed with what is happening now.
- It often moves from past to present tense.
- It is short like the orientation.

Language Style

- Formal/impersonal
- Sensational words that exaggerate
- Don't use 'I interviewed' try 'when interviewed, Macduff, Thane of Fife told this newspaper'

THE CAWDOR CHRONICAL

Empty rectangular box for a title or section header.

Left-hand column of horizontal lines for notes.

Right-hand column of horizontal lines for notes.

'Macbeth' Plot Sort

Organise these events from Macbeth into the correct order.

Macbeth's wife persuades him to kill King Duncan and take the throne.

Duncan's son, Malcolm, raises an army and attacks Macbeth's castle.

Macbeth kills his best friend, Banquo, to stop his son from becoming king.

Macbeth feels guilty about what he has done.

Macbeth sees the witches again and they reassure him.

Lady Macbeth goes mad with guilt and shame.

Macbeth sees Banquo's ghost at a feast.

Lady Macbeth kills herself.

Macduff kills Macbeth and takes his head to Malcolm.

Macbeth kills Macduff's wife and children.

Macbeth hears a prophecy from three witches that he will be king.

Throughout our unit of work on Macbeth, please return to this sheet and add evidence for Macbeth being a tragic hero or a dastardly villain. You may write quotes and/or examples of his thoughts and actions.

Examples of Macbeth being a hero

Examples of Macbeth being a villain

The Weird Sister: Mischief Makers or Harmless Truth Tellers?

There is much dispute as to the role of the Weird Sisters in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Should we view these strange creatures as a force for evil or simply as women who can tell men their fates? This topic has been argued now for centuries. Read on to find out which stance you would take.

The first point of view concerns the prophecies that the Weird Sisters tell on their first meeting with Macbeth and Banquo. It is these prophecies to the two men which put the wheels in motion. By telling Macbeth, 'All hail, Macbeth, thou shalt be king hereafter!' it plants the seed in this ambitious man's head which leads him into temptation. Their actions, when Macbeth begs them to stay so that he can hear more, are also disturbing as they, 'made themselves air, into which they vanished'. If they had simply wanted to inform Macbeth of his future, surely they would have stayed to tell all? Furthermore it is worth noting that if Macbeth had not been told of his future, then he may never have killed his King and may have remained a fiercely loyal subject. If the witches truly could see the future, then surely they would have known what Macbeth would do with this information. They behave like puppeteers with Macbeth as their puppet. It is reasonable to argue that they were simply up to cause mischief for Macbeth and see a great hero fall. However, many do not support this claim. There is an argument to be made that the witches were simply stating facts about Macbeth's future and it was then up to him what he did with this information; all they did was to tell him that he would be King. It is he who decided to murder Duncan (not the witches urging him to) therefore it could be argued that Macbeth became a self fulfilling prophecy. Many believe that Macbeth did not need to murder. Without committing a crime, he became Thane of Cawdor. His murderous plan was too ambitious

A further argument concerns witchcraft. When we meet the witches for a second time in Act I, Scene III, they are casting a spell to punish a sailor and his wife for not giving one of them chestnuts. They are concocting a spell, which includes body parts, 'Here I have a pilot's thumb' to ensure the sailor doesn't sleep and that his boat is tossed around on stormy seas. Some would argue that this shows vindictive behaviour and a punishment that far outweighs the crime. Some would also question where they obtained these grisly components for their spells. Although some would argue this shows the Weird Sisters in a sinister light, others argue that there is no proof of the witches' magical abilities. For all we know, their spells may have been harmless and they may have simply been three women who liked to think that they could cast spells and cause havoc. It is a well known fact that Macbeth is driven mad by his heinous crimes, so when he seeks out the sisters for a second time, the 'visions' they show him may simply be a figment of his imagination (similar to the dagger he sees before him in Act 2 Scene 1).

A final point of view relates to the language and appearance of the witches. The witches spoke in rhyming couplets e.g. 'A drum, a drum! Macbeth doth come. By having his characters speaking in this way, Shakespeare was showing his audience that there was something eerie and supernatural about them; they speak in this way to unsettle the audience. Furthermore their appearance is described in great detail by Banquo. They were 'wild' and 'withered' with beards. They 'look not like the inhabitants o' the earth' Act I Scene III. It could be argued that Shakespeare described them in this way to make us view them as something unnatural and to give us an uneasy feeling. On the other hand, a book should not be judged by its cover. There are those who say that we cannot judge their actions by their appearance. Macbeth is shown to be mistrustful of the weird sisters in the first place. Proof of this is in Act I, Scene III where Macbeth and Banquo first encounter the witches. After they tell Macbeth that he will become Thane of Cawdor and then King, Banquo says to his friend, 'Good sir, why do you start; and seem to fear things that do sound so fair? This shows that Macbeth is mistrustful of the Weird Sisters and is fearful of their words. Why then did he take fate into his own hands and set out to make their prophecies true?

Having considered both sides of the argument, there are strong cases for both sides. One of the strongest arguments for the Weird Sisters being mischief makers is that they can appear to be vindictive and have a wish to punish people for the smallest slight. Who is to say that they hadn't a vendetta against Macbeth? Having said this, the other side of the argument is just as strong. The best argument for them being harmless truth tellers is that Macbeth becomes a self fulfilling prophecy by taking matters into his own hands and killing the King.

To conclude, both sides of this debate are equally as strong. Perhaps it depends on how an author or director chooses to portray these characters which ultimately form our opinions.

Balanced Argument Checklist

Introductory Paragraph

- Clear and concise
- It introduces the topic of discussion, perhaps with a question.

Middle section of argument

- Opens with the theme of the paragraph e.g. The first argument discusses, the first point of view concerns...
- States the reasons for or against the question being discussed
- Uses evidence or statistics where necessary to add authority to opinions
- When making a further point use conjunctions such as furthermore, in addition to this etc.
- It changes to the other side of the argument about the same theme by using a conjunction such as however, whilst, although
- Three paragraphs is a good length with each discussing a different theme

Concluding Paragraph

- State the best argument for.
- State the best argument against
- Think about a final sentence that tries to reach a compromise and see both sides.

Language

- Formal/impersonal
- Use of modal verbs to suggest possibilities
- Use of argument words and phrases such as: many dispute this fact, others believe,
- No use of personal pronouns and the author should not give their own opinions!