

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Macbeth – Questions – Act II

Reading Check

1. Who accompanies Banquo at the opening of this act?
2. What is Macbeth's hallucination before he murders Duncan?
3. How does Lady Macbeth signal that she has drugged the grooms?
4. What reason does Lady Macbeth give for not committing the murder herself?
5. Why does Lady Macbeth return to the King's bedchamber?
6. What causes Macbeth and his wife to hurry back to their own chamber?
7. Why have Macbeth and Lennox come to Inverness?
8. What happens to Duncan's servants (grooms)?
9. Why do Duncan's sons decide to leave Scotland?

Critical Thinking

1. An atmosphere of foreboding and horror is built up in Act II. In Macbeth's famous "dagger" soliloquy, an image of horror is established. Why does Macbeth refer to the dagger as "fatal vision"?
2. What does Macbeth mean by a "dagger of the mind"? What is suggested by having Macbeth experience a hallucination at this moment (before the murder)?