

- Reading Questions: Act 2 -

1. After his servant leaves him (Act 2, Scene 1, Line 33 and following), Macbeth imagines he can see something. What is it? What do you believe this item symbolizes?
2. Cite specific examples of symbols from Act II that foreshadow the murder of King Duncan.
3. How is Macbeth's mind affected by the murder of Duncan? Cite a quote from the text to support your answer.
4. In Act II, Scene 3, Lines 82-85, Macduff states, "Oh gentle lady! 'Tis not for you to hear what I can speak; / The repetition in a woman's ear / Would murder as it fell." How is this quote an example of dramatic irony?
5. Toward the end of Act II Malcolm predicts that the murderous plot is not yet finished, "This murderous shaft that's shot / Hath not yet lighted." Predict what other murders will occur before the end of the play.