DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions as you read or after you finish. These will be due each time we finish an Act.

1. FATE: Write a definition. Then write what we discuss as a class.
2. Who or what are Graymalkin and Paddock in lines 8 & 9? How do you know?
3. What other sources could you have consulted to find the information had there not been side notes (lines 8-9)?
4. Why might Shakespeare have chosen these lines (10-11) to end scene i?
5. When, where, and with whom will the witches meet next?
6. Is Fuseli’s painting faithful to the description in lines 40-47?
7. Does this painting give you a better understanding of how the characters felt upon meeting the witches?
8. Looking at the photo on p. 324, does the mood he creates correspond to the mood in Act I? Why or why not?
9. What offstage scene does the captain describe in this speech (lines 7-23)? Why might he have chosen a character to speak it?
10. How do Lennox’s words here (lines 46-47) supply a clue for the actor playing Ross?
11. What role has Macbeth played in battle?
12. What information do you learn about scene iii from the italicized stage directions? What does this do for the scene?
13. Why does the first witch say, “I’ll do, I’ll do, and I’ll do”? What is being established about the witches?
14. What descriptive details does Banquo use in his speech about the witches (lines 39-47)?
15. What do you think has influenced Shakespeare’s description of the witches: Greek ideas or his time period?
16. What has Macbeth earned through his exploits?
17. Which of the two soldiers on the right do you think is Macbeth (picture p. 328)? Explain.
18. What have Banquo and Macbeth learned in this scene?
19. How could Elizabethan actors have made this scene with the witches mysterious without help from special lighting effects?
20. What does Banquo mean by the “insane root” (line 84)?
21. What do the witches promise Macbeth and Banquo?
22. Using the side notes, how would you rephrase lines 120-121?
23. Explain what Banquo means in lines 123-126.
24. In what ways does the design of this crown reflect the belief that kings were divinely appointed? Explain.
25. What does Macbeth mean in lines 143-144? Do you believe these show Macbeth’s decision?
26. What does the stage direction for line 153 indicate to the actor playing Macbeth?
27. As Macbeth thinks about what the witches have promised, what “horrid image” frightens him?
28. What is the king saying in these lines? Why is it significant that he says this just before Macbeth enters.
29. How does this Scottish castle reflect the mood of the play (image page 332)?
30. Explain pros and cons of living in this castle. How does Macbeth’s description from scene 6 compare with the image?
31. From what area of human activity do King Duncan and Banquo draw imagery in this passage (lines 28-33)?
32. What are Duncan and Banquo saying? Why did Shakespeare choose to use this imagery?
33. What do the stage directions with line 48 tell you about how Macbeth is to deliver this speech?
34. What action of Duncan’s upsets Macbeth?
35. What do lines 11-14 tell us about Macbeth’s feelings for his wife?
36. What does Lady Macbeth’s soliloquy in lines 15-30 reveal about her ambitions and plans?
37. Base on lines 18-25, how does Lady Macbeth think her husband should approach the situation?
38. How does her reaction contrast with Macbeth’s?
39. What is the costume designer trying to communicate with the outfit for Ellen Terry?
40. Judging by the picture on p. 335, how would Terry have spoken lines 38-54?
41. What does Lady Macbeth feel is Macbeth’s weakness?
42. Paraphrase lines 14-20. Why would Lady M show so much humility and respect for Macbeth?
43. What details does Banquo use in scene vi, lines 3-10 to paint a word picture of Macbeth’s castle?
44. What doubts does Macbeth reveal in his soliloquy, lines 1-28?
45. What deed does Lady M urge her husband to perform?
46. In line 42, what does Lady M mean by the “ornament of life”?
47. What arguments does Lady M use to convince Macbeth to carry out the murder?
48. Summarize the Act, each scene at a time.