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

1. Vocabulary: Write the definition and part of speech for each one as we read through the Act.
   1. Dauntless
   2. Indissoluble
   3. Infirmity
   4. Malevolence
   5. Predominant
2. Recalling events from Act II, what might Macbeth mean by this statement: “To be thus [king] is nothing, but to be safely thus??
3. After wielding a dagger, could Macbeth expect to rule in peace? Explain.

**Scene i.**

1. What does Banquo suspect about Macbeth?
2. Looking at lines 29-32, who are the bloody “cousins”? What do we learn about these “cousins”?
3. What did the witches promise Macbeth and Banquo in Act I?
4. Dividing Macbeths soliloquy in half, what do each of the parts mean?
5. Referring to lines 75-84, what can you infer about what Macbeth has told these men? Why might he have told them this?
6. What does the first murderer mean in line 91 when he answers Macbeth, “We are men”?
7. What has caused Macbeth to hire these murderers?
8. What conflict does Macbeth express in lines 116-126?
9. What does Macbeth ask the murderers to do?
10. Do you believe the reasons Macbeth gives for not wanting to kill Banquo himself? Explain.
11. Why would he not want to kill Banquo himself?
12. How important is Fleance’s death to Macbeth? Why?
13. In what lines or where in the play did Macbeth wish to end Banquo’s line to the throne?

**Scene ii.**

1. What causes Lady Macbeth to say what she does in lines 4-7?
2. In your opinion, why do her four lines rhyme (when it’s normally saved for the end of a scene)?
3. According to lines 13-26, who is sleeping better than he is?
4. Define dramatic irony.
5. What is ironic about Macbeth’s idea about disguising the couple’s real conflict with Banquo?
6. To what specific action do you think Macbeth is indirectly referring in lines 45-56?
7. Why would he keep the plans about killing Banquo from Lady Macbeth?
8. What does Macbeth tell Lady Macbeth and what does he hold back from her?

**Scene iii.**

1. Are you surprised there is a third murderer? Why did Macbeth send for him?
2. After reviewing the events of scene 3 discuss why Fleance’s escape would present an external conflict for Macbeth. Why is it important to the drama?
3. Discuss what you think is the climax: Fleance’s escape or when Macbeth learns of it. Explain.

**Scene iv.**

1. Do lines 30-33 remind you of anything else Macbeth has recently said about snakes?
2. Identify the dramatic irony in Macbeth’s speech as he converses with his guests.
3. What do the murderers fail to do?
4. How could a trapdoor have been utilized in the Shakespearean production of *Macbeth*?
5. What characters in *Macbeth* could have used a trapdoor for exits or entrances? Explain.
6. How is scene iv consistent with the rest of the play so far?
7. How might you connect Macbeth’s agitation with his knowledge that Fleance has escaped?
8. What do Macbeth’s comments in lines 76-84 indicate about his view of the murder?
9. How does the incident with Banquo’s ghost convey Macbeth’s inner conflict?
10. Why is Macbeth startled at the feast?
11. Do you think Lady Macbeth or any of the guests sees Banquo’s ghost? Explain.
12. What effects do you think Macbeth’s behavior will have on the guests?
13. Look back at lines 97-99 and 118-121: why do you think Lady Mac is covering for Mac?
14. Identify the comment in lines 131-145 that lets you know that Macbeth doesn’t trust anyone.
15. How do lines 136-139 in Scene iv mark a turning point in Macbeth’s inner conflict?
16. What do you think lines 131-145 tell the audience about what events they can expect in the future?
17. How does Macbeth’s attitude at this point reflect the beginning of resolution to his conflicts? Explain.
18. Why will Macbeth visit the “weird sisters” again?

**Scene v.**

1. Why would Shakespeare include an allusion to Greek mythology in Hecate?
2. What does Shakespeare’s use of the allusion suggest about his relationship to tradition?

**Scene vi.**

1. Identify the words in lines 22-26 that both men use to identify their TRUE feelings about Macbeth.
2. How does the second Lord’s description of England’s Edward let us know that his lord feels that Duncan’s son is innocent?
3. What coming action and events can you anticipate from the information supplied in lines 24-39?
4. Summarize the Act, each scene at a time.
   1. Scene i.
   2. Scene ii.
   3. Scene iii.
   4. Scene iv.
   5. Scene v.
   6. Scene vi.
5. How do the vocabulary words and the opening question fit into the theme of this Act? Explain.