

and promises "great revenge" (214). Macduff portrays grief and sadness for the death of his family setting him up as a foil to Macbeth who feels lack of emotion due to his tyranny.

Act V

How does Macbeth react to his wife death? What does this reveal to us about his character? (Compare to another character)

Macbeth exhibits little emotion and grief when he finds out about his wife's death. When he finds out about her death he explains that "she should have died hereafter" (17). This illustrates that it was inevitable and he shows little sadness. This demonstrates how his position as King has made him a tyrant and desensitised to grief. This foils Macduff who felt extreme grief and sadness when his wife died, even wishing for revenge. Contrastingly, Macbeth felt little and barely talks about it, he then moves on and talks about Birnam showing how he cares more about keeping his crown than his wife's death.

Trace the final mental state of Macbeth through significant speeches. Where does he show false bravery which masks the underlying fear? Where does he reveal dependence upon the witches prophecies? Where does he reveal the sense of betrayal by the witches? Where does he reveal his horrified realisation of his misspent life?

Macbeth's final mental state is consisting of fear as he figures out that the witches prophecies will not guard him anymore. His dependence on the witches prophecies is shown when he states that he bears "a charmed life, which must not yield to one of woman born" (12-13). His dependence on the prophecies is then betrayed when Macduff explains that he was "untimely ripp'd" (16) from his mother's womb. Here, Macbeth is betrayed by the witches prophecies because Macbeth was not naturally born of a woman meaning he is able to kill Macbeth. His fear is shown when he states that he will "not fight with thee" (22) because of his lack of confidence in himself. He realises his misspent life when he states that "I will try the last: before my body" (31) meaning that he will see if Macduff's strength will prove stronger than fate. This demonstrates that Macbeth realised he has misspent his life by following the witches misleading prophecies.

In what ways does Macbeth show his better qualities in Scene 8? How is this consistent with the tragic arch?

Macbeth shows his better qualities when he states that he "will not yield, to kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet" (27-28). This demonstrates his strength and ambition as a king. This is consistent with the tragic arch because it is Macbeth's ambition which led to his death. Macbeth was power hungry and ambitious enough to kill Duncan and claim the crown. Even though ambition can be a positive trait, this was Macbeth's tragic flaw as his ambition led him to kill Banquo and Macduff's family leading to his death. Moreover, his strength and ambition is shown in Scene 8 when he states that he will not yield to Malcolm. This positive trait is consistent with the tragic arch as it leads to his downfall.

Definitions Macbeth

- Antagonist
 - The villain or character which opposes the protagonist, is portrayed as the enemy
 - Example: Macbeth is his own worst enemy because he believes the witches prophecies

- Aside
 - A passage meant to be heard by the audience but not the other characters in the play
 - Example: When Macbeth hears that he may have a chance to be King due to the witches prophecy he states "[Aside] If chance will have me king, why, chance may crown me,

Without my stir." But only the audience was meant to hear this, as none of the characters know of this inner turmoil for him to try and fulfil the prophecy or ignore it.

- Catastrophe
 - The final action which completes the unravelling of the plot, most often in a classical tragedy
 - Example: Macduff enters with Macbeth's head proving that Macbeth is dead and Malcolm is the new King of Scotland.