

'How is Language used to present Macbeth and Napoleon as Villains?

When both Macbeth and Napoleon are in power they use persuasive language for the same motive: to persuade and therefore ultimately control the other characters. Persuasive language is a villainous act as it is a common trait that all villains have. In Animal Farm Napoleon uses persuasion through propaganda, which is conducted by a pig named Squealer. *"Napoleon sprang forward with a cry 'Death to Humanity!' and sank his teeth into Jones's leg? Surely you remember THAT, comrades?"* The repetition of rhetorical questions make the other characters question themselves and leads them to believe that what Squealer is saying is correct even if it isn't. The use of the verb *"sprang"* makes Napoleon out that he had no fear when it came to attacking human, therefore persuading the other animals that he is a tremendous warrior when he isn't. Using capital letters of *"THAT"* shows that Squealer emphasised the word and thereby swaying the animals more into believing him.

Similarly Macbeth uses persuasive language to persuade the murderers to kill Banquo and Fleance. *"know That it was he in the times past which held you so under fortune"* Here Macbeth is saying that the murderers hard times are because of Banquo. Macbeth uses emotive language and plays on the murderers emotions to persuade them to kill Banquo. He does this by using the pronouns *"he"* and *"you"* as these make it more personal. As Macbeth doesn't mention Banquo's name and refers to him as *"he"* it shows that Banquo is unworthy of the King mentioning his name. This persuades the murderers to kill Banquo as by not using Banquo's name it shows how low of a man he is.

To compare both Napoleon and Macbeth are convincing others but Napoleon is trying to convince the other characters that he is superior whereas Macbeth is convincing people to do he deeds. Both persuade the other characters as they are fuelled by paranoia. Macbeth is paranoid about being killed especially by Banquo. This is because he committed regicide to become King so why shouldn't someone kill him? This links back to the context of Macbeth as in the 1600's it was a sin to kill a King or Royal. In contrast Napoleon is paranoid about Snowball having more power than him and his return. He is also afraid that the other animals will find out that he has been lying and as a result will revolt against him, just like when Stalin was in power he was constantly afraid of rebellions and uprisings.

Orwell and Shakespeare use violent and negative language to present Napoleon and Macbeth as villains. By using violent language it shows the villainous acts that Napoleon and Macbeth have done. In Macbeth negative and violent language is used to show that Macbeth has become a tyrant. *"Bleed, bleed poor country. /Of horrid hell can come a devil more damn'd."* The repetition of the violent word *"bleed"* emphasises how bad Scotland has become under Macbeth's rule. By personifying the country it makes Scotland sound more vulnerable. The use of alliteration of *"horrid hell"* creates a harsh and negative sound. Comparing Macbeth to a devil means that Macbeth is as evil as can be which creates irony.