**Macbeth Home Learning: Part 5**

**Act 3**

**Task 1: Plot and Characters**

If you haven’t done this already, copy the link below into your web browser and read the plot summary by clicking on ‘Revise’ and then take the test available. Then do the same for characters.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp982hv>

**Task 2: Macbeth’s Soliloquy**

1. Look up and note down the definition of a soliloquy

In Act 3 Scene 1 Macbeth begins a soliloquy. He muses on the subject of Banquo, reflecting that his old friend is the only man in Scotland whom he fears. He notes that if the witches’ prophecy is true, his will be a “fruitless crown,” by which he means that he will not have an child and heir. The murder of Duncan, which he feels so guilty about, may have simply given Banquo’s sons a chance to turn on Macbeth and then take the crown.

Below is Macbeth’s soliloquy…

 **Shakespeare’s Original: Translated:**

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| --- | --- |
| To be thus is nothing,But to be safely thus. Our fears in BanquoStick deep, and in his royalty of natureReigns that which would be feared. 'Tis much he dares,And to that dauntless temper of his mindHe hath a wisdom that doth guide his valorTo act in safety. There is none but heWhose being I do fear, and under himMy genius is rebuked, as it is saidMark Antony’s was by Caesar. He chid the sistersWhen first they put the name of king upon meAnd bade them speak to him. Then, prophetlike,They hailed him father to a line of kings.Upon my head they placed a fruitless crownAnd put a barren scepter in my grip,Thence to be wrenched with an unlineal hand,No son of mine succeeding. If ’t be so,For Banquo’s issue have I filed my mind;For them the gracious Duncan have I murdered;Put rancors in the vessel of my peaceOnly for them; and mine eternal jewelGiven to the common enemy of man,To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!Rather than so, come fate into the list,And champion me to th' utterance. Who’s there? | To be the king is nothing if I’m not safe as the king. I’m very afraid of Banquo. There’s something noble about him that makes me fear him. He’s willing to take risks, and his mind never stops working. He has the wisdom to act bravely but also safely. I’m not afraid of anyone but him. Around him, my guardian angel is frightened, just as Mark Antony’s angel supposedly feared Octavius Caesar. Banquo chided the witches when they first called me king, asking them to tell him his own future. Then, like prophets, they named him the father to a line of kings. They gave me a crown and a scepter that I can’t pass on. Someone outside my family will take these things away from me, since no son of mine will take my place as king. If this is true, then I’ve tortured my conscience and murdered the gracious Duncan for Banquo’s sons. I’ve ruined my own peace for their benefit. I’ve handed over my everlasting soul to the devil so that they could be kings. Banquo’s sons, kings! Instead of watching that happen, I will challenge fate to battle and fight to the death. Who’s there! |
| *Enter****SERVANT****and two****MURDERERS*** | *The****SERVANT****comes back in with two****MURDERERS*** |



So**…**

**Task 3: Your soliloquy**

Think about how you feel about something that has happened to you in the past few days (it could be you being asked to do this work) and write a soliloquy expressing how you feel.

Aim for about half a page of writing.

Extra challenge: Can you try and make your language sound Shakespearean?!