

By the end of studying **Act 5 Scene 8** I need to know:

**Plot:** Malcom, Macduff and Siward approach Macbeth's castles and the battle commences. Macbeth kills Young Siward Macbeth encounters Macduff not 'born' of woman. They fight. Macduff defeats Macbeth and places his head on a stick. Malcom is named King of Scotland

**Ideas:** Macbeth's fall from power and grace is complete- he will not be remembered kindly. Macbeth refuses to surrender, this is because he is too concerned about how he will be treated. If he is to be mocked and ridiculed, he'd rather not be alive to witness it.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	<p><b>intrenchant</b> - uncuttable  <b>the Angel . . . served</b> - i.e. the Devil  <b>cow'd</b> - caused me to cower  <b>juggling fiends</b> - deceiving devils (or Fates)  <b>palter</b> - toy with  <b>go off</b> - perish  <b>unshrinking station</b> - unyielding position  <b>before</b> - on his chest  <b>compassed . . . pearl</b> - surrounded by the elite of Scotland</p>
<b>Context</b>	<p><b>Witchcraft</b> - the witches have betrayed Macbeth with the prophecies</p> <p><b>Masculinity</b> - Macbeth is primarily presented as a warrior. By giving in to the temptation that the witches offer, he loses almost every aspect of true humanity. Even his courage temporarily fails him when he learns from Macduff how false the prophecies are - yet his courage returns at the end: he will not yield.</p>
<b>Themes</b>	<p>Betrayal  Witchcraft  Anger  Revenge  Masculinity  Retribution</p>
<b>Deeper understanding</b>	<p><b>Masculinity:</b> Macbeth taunts Macduff over the murders of his family '<b>my soul is charged too much with the blood of thine already</b>'. It's an attack on Macduff's masculinity that he wasn't able to protect them, the expectation of him in the society at the time. Masculinity is also important to Siward, who Macbeth killed in Act 5 Scene 7- '<b>if I had as many sons as I had hairs, I couldn't wish them to a fairer death</b>'. He's happy that his son died a man (by fighting Macbeth). It shows how honourable being a man is. Also, Ross says Young Siward '<b>had his hurts</b>' before he died, meaning he managed to hurt Macbeth before dying. This contrasts with the great fighter Macbeth was at the start of the play. Macbeth's own masculinity appears to desert him- despite claiming, in Act 5 Scene 3 that he'll '<b>fight til [his] flesh be hacked</b>', upon hearing that Macduff was born by caesarean '<b>I'll not fight with thee</b>', revealing his fears of his impending death. The only reason he fights Macduff now is when Macduff uses expectations of masculinity against him. He knows Macbeth will not '<b>yield to kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet</b>' nor wanted to be captured and '<b>painted on a pole, and underwrit 'here may you see the tyrant'</b>'. To Macbeth, public shame is far worse than death- therefore he opts to fight, fully aware that he will die.</p> <p><b>Malcolm is the rightful king:</b> he ends the play- which signifies he's an important character and it also re-establishes the order that Macbeth's rule destroyed. He is also not going to abuse his power, he tells everyone they won't spend long before being able to return home to their loved ones (as well as using collective pronoun '<b>we</b>' rather than '<b>I</b>'). He will be more like Duncan than Macbeth. He also ends with identifying the legacy of the Macbeths: '<b>this dead butcher and his fiendlike queen</b>'.</p>

**Reading:**  
Read to the punctuation.

**Links across the play:**

**Act 4 Scene 1** - no one born of woman shall harm him

**Act 1 Scene 7**- 'we but teach/Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return/To plague the inventor' - the theme of betrayal has come full circle.

<b>Quotes</b>	'Turn, hell-hound, turn! 'let the angel whom thou still hast served' 'I will not yield, to kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,' 'Had I as many sons as I have hairs, I would not wish them to a fairer death' 'my soul is charged too much with the blood of thine already'.
<b>Terminology</b>	<b>Collective pronouns</b> <b>Short sentences</b> <b>Anaphora</b> <b>Allusion</b> <b>Repetition</b>