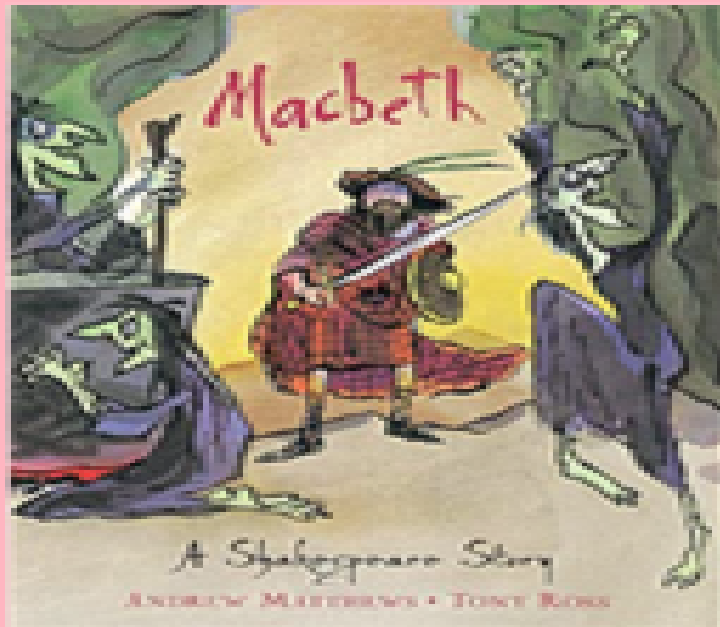
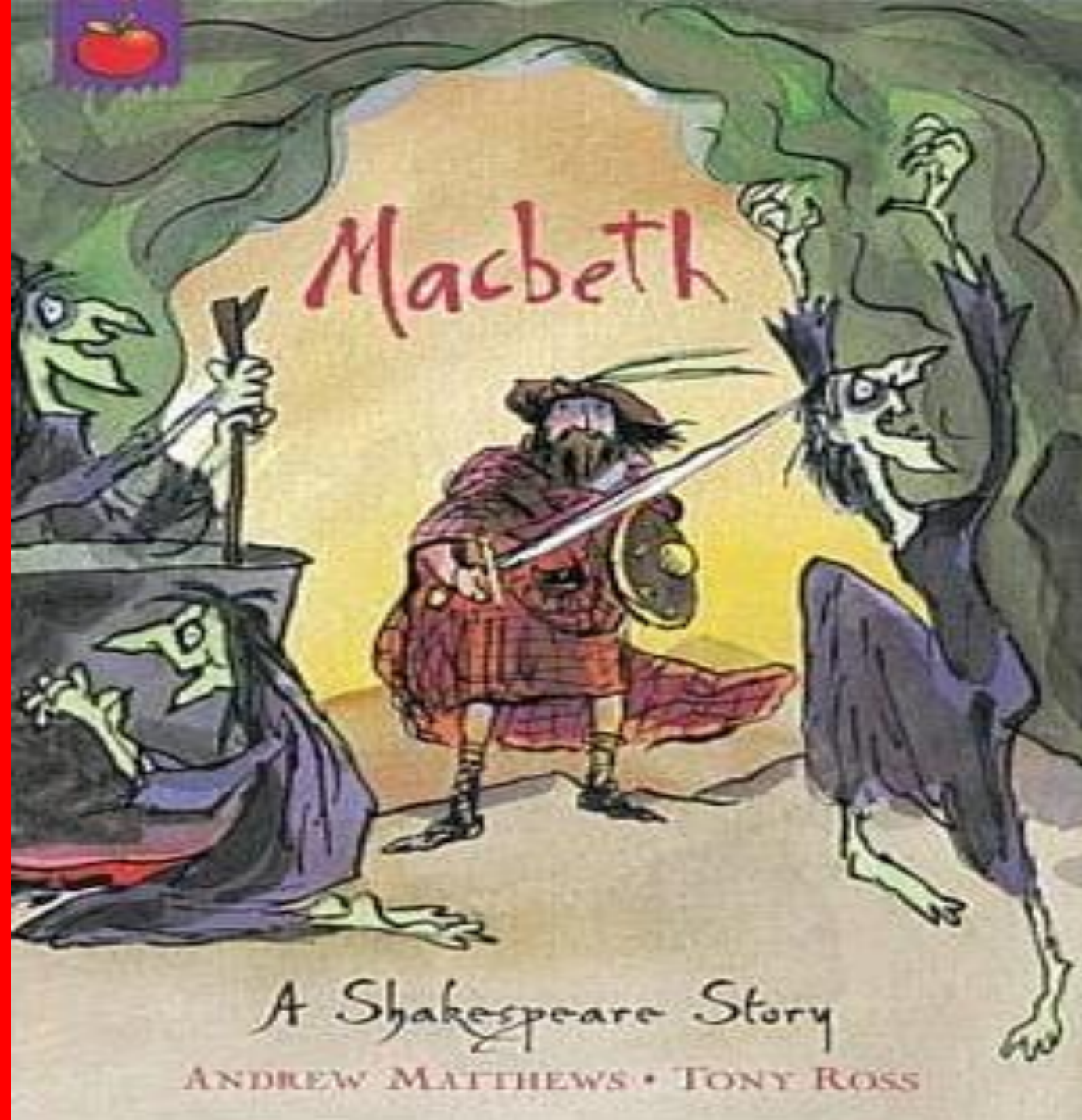


Friday 26th June, 2020.

LO: To infer, based on information from a text.

Read p 36 - 44 and complete tasks.





Macbeth

A Shakespeare Story

ANDREW MATTHEWS • TONY ROSS

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Cast List



The Three Witches - or Weird Sisters



Macbeth

Thane of Glamis
General to King Duncan



Lady Macbeth

Wife to Macbeth



Banquo

General to King Duncan



King Duncan

King of Scotland



Malcolm and Donalbain

The King's sons



Macduff

Thane of Fife



A servant of
Glamis Castle



Two
Murderers

The Scene

Scotland in the eleventh century.

When shall we three meet again?

In thunder, lightning, or in rain?

When the hurly-burly's done,

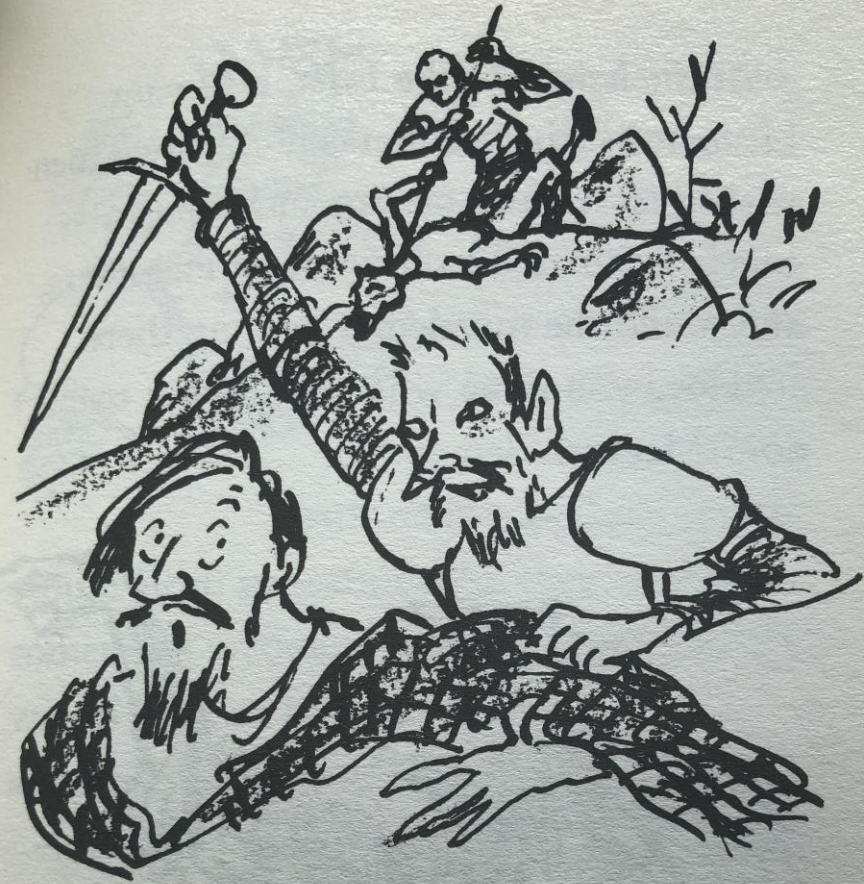
When the battle's lost and won.

First and Second Witches; I.i.

* * *

Macbeth held a coronation feast in the royal castle at Dunsinane. Many of the nobles who attended remarked that Macbeth's old friend, Banquo, was not present, but Macbeth laughed when they mentioned it.

p36



"Lord Banquo and his son must have been delayed on their way," he said lightly. Only he knew what had delayed them, for he had hired two murderers to ambush them on the road.

At the height of the feast, a servant brought Macbeth a message that two men wished to see him on urgent business. Macbeth hurried to his private chambers, and found the murderers waiting there.

"Have you done what I paid you to do?" Macbeth demanded.



"Banquo is dead, my lord," one of the murderers said.

"We cut his throat and threw the body into a ditch."

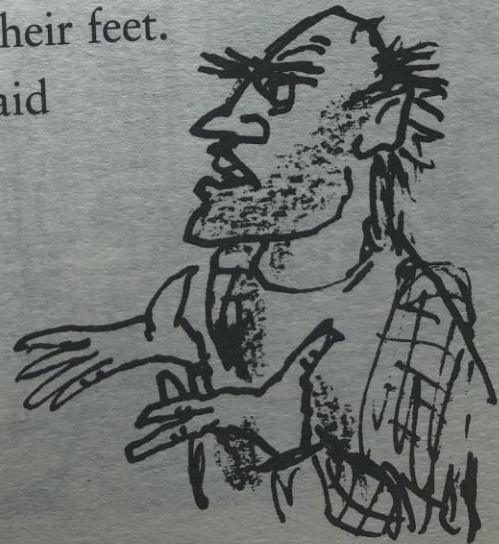
Macbeth sighed

with relief – perhaps now he

would sleep peacefully. But then he sensed something wrong: neither of the murderers would look at him, and they kept anxiously shuffling their feet.

"And his son?" said Macbeth.

The reply was shattering. "He escaped, my lord. Banquo's son still lives."



As he returned to the banquet hall, doubts tortured Macbeth like scorpions' stings. 'Banquo's son still lives!' he thought. 'Lives to take his revenge on me, to claim the throne and father sons who will rule after him. Is there no end to the blood that must be shed before I find peace?'

As he entered the hall, Macbeth put on a false smile to hide his troubled mind; but



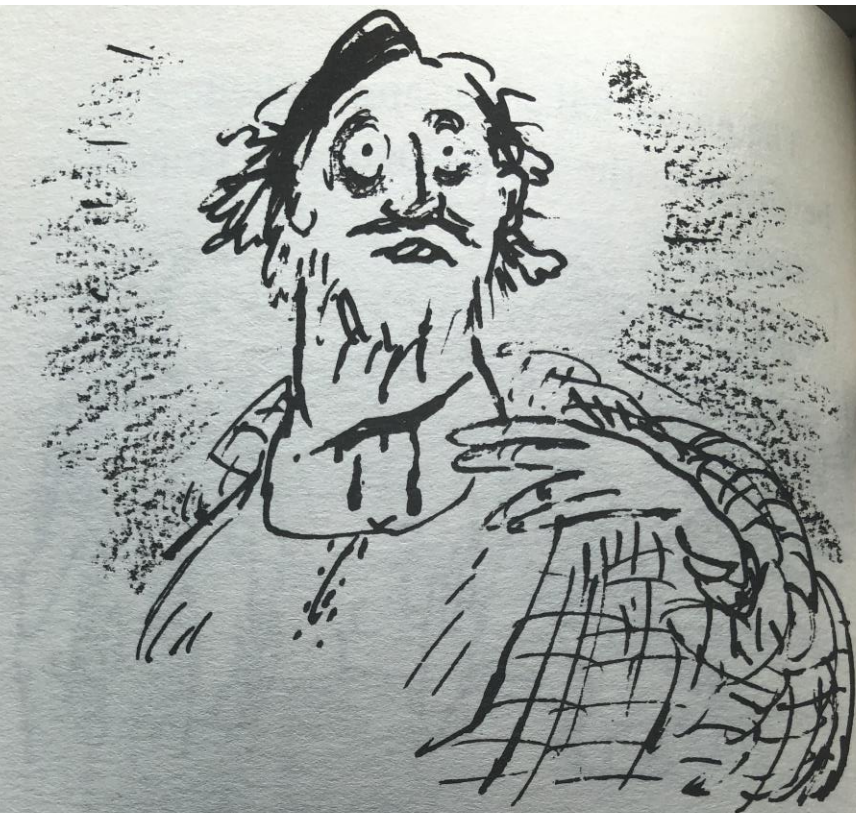
the smile froze when he saw a hooded figure seated in his chair. "Who dares to sit in my place?" he roared.

The guests fell silent and looked bewildered: the King's chair was empty.



"Why...no one, my lord!" said Lady Macbeth, with a forced laugh. She could see that something was wrong with her husband, but she could not guess what. "The King is jesting!" she told the nobles.

"This is no jest!" barked Macbeth. He strode angrily towards the figure, then recoiled in horror as it drew back its hood.



For what he saw was Banquo – with weed tangled in his hair, and mud streaked across his face, with a deep gash in his neck that sent a stream of blood pattering onto the flagstones and haunting, glassy eyes that stared and stared.

“Get rid of him!” Macbeth screeched.



The nobles sprang to their feet, drawing their daggers, knocking over chairs and wine cups in the confusion.

“Back to your grave!” sobbed Macbeth.

Banquo smiled – there was blood in his mouth, and his teeth shone white through it, then he faded into the shadows and the torchlight.

"My lords, the King is ill," Lady Macbeth said desperately. "Leave us now, and let him rest. In the morning, he will be himself again."

p44



"Myself?" Macbeth moaned softly to himself. "I will not be myself again until Banquo's spirit is laid to rest. Only the witches can set me free!"

* * *



The witches were seated in a huddle around a fire, over which a cauldron bubbled. In the sky above their heads a full moon sailed, casting silver light

over the battlefield, still littered with unburied corpses.

The blind witch held up her crystal. Deep inside, a tiny horse and rider galloped wildly through the night. "He comes!" she cackled. "The spell is still strong!"



p45

LO: To infer, based on information from a text.

Task 1: p 36 - 44



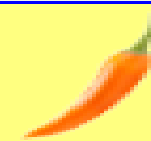
What is a 'coronation' (pg 36)? Can you underline a simile on page 40. What does it mean? Is it effective?

1. Find and copy a word on page 41 that means the same as 'joke'.
2. **Re-write this sentence, replacing the words in bold with synonyms: Macbeth moaned softly to himself, "I will not be myself until Banquo's spirit is laid to rest. Only the witches can set me free!"**
3. Read page 37. What has happened to Banquo and his son?
4. What excuse does Lady Macbeth give for Macbeth's strange behaviour?



If you finish this section and there is still time, move on to the Spicy/Hot task 1.

Task 1:



1. Read up to 'they kept anxiously shuffling their feet' (pg 39). Why do you think the murderers are behaving like this?
2. What might Macbeth be thinking and feeling when he learns that Banquo's son has escaped?
3. What might the other nobles be thinking and feeling on page 43?
4. Explain why Lady Macbeth answers Macbeth with a 'forced laugh' on page 41.
5. Macbeth has lost his mind. Do you agree? Use evidence from the text.

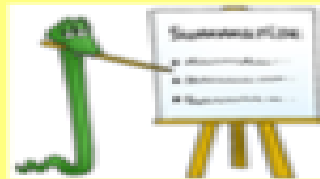


Task 2



1. Read to the bottom of page 36. Where do you think Banquo is?
2. Read to the bottom of page 40. Who do you think is sitting in Macbeth's throne?
3. After Macbeth has committed murder, he asks "'Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood clean from my hand?'" Who is Neptune? How is Macbeth feeling?
4. Read to the bottom of page 44. Do you think Macbeth will go back and see the witches? What might he say to them?

Task 3



1. If you were putting on a performance showing the events on pages 40-44, how would you direct the actors? What sort of scenery would you have? What music, lighting and soundtrack might you want? Write a summary of your ideas.