



M A C B E T H

Power Players – an educational resource

Our resources are designed to be used with selected film titles, which are available free for clubs at www.intofilm.org

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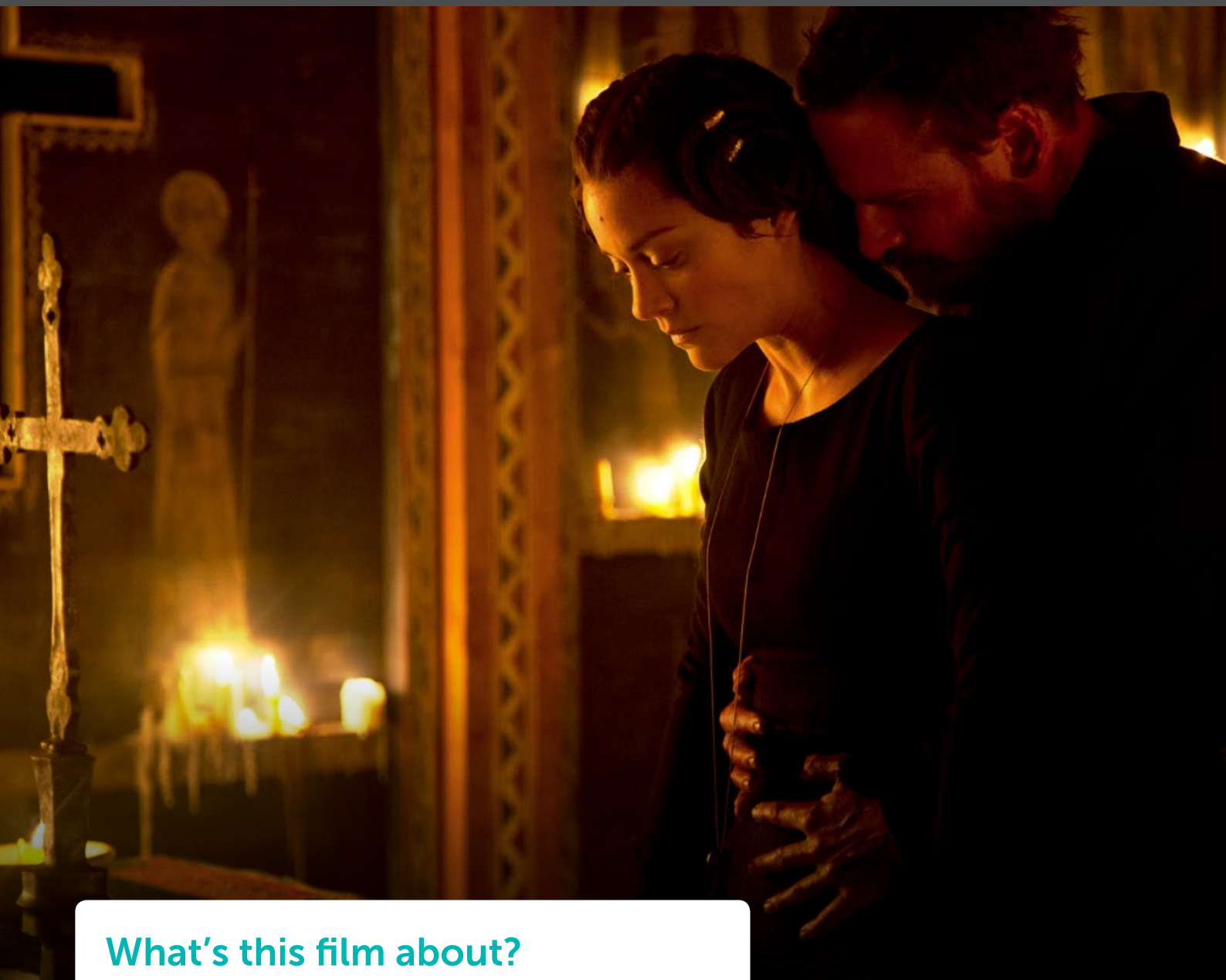
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intofilm.org

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The National Lottery
Film Forever



What's this film about?

Shot on location in Scotland and England, **MACBETH** tells the story of a fearless warrior and inspiring leader brought low by ambition.

A thrilling interpretation of the dramatic realities of the times and a truthful reimagining of what wartime must have really been like for one of Shakespeare's most famous and compelling characters, a story of all-consuming passion and ambition set in war - torn Scotland.

Starring Academy-Award® nominee Michael Fassbender (*X-Men; 12 Years a Slave*) and Academy-Award® winner Marion Cotillard (*La Vie en Rose*), directed by Justin Kurzel (*Snowtown*) and with a stellar supporting cast which boasts Paddy Considine (*The Bourne Ultimatum*), David Thewlis (the Harry Potter series), Sean Harris (*Prometheus*), Jack Reynor (*What Richard Did*) and Elizabeth Debicki (*The Great Gatsby*).

Who is this resource for?

This resource is aimed at English teachers of students aged 14–19. **MACBETH** has a 15 certificate, and we would advise teachers to check content and their organisation's policies before delivering activities with 14 year olds.

Teachers can select activities to use with their students and extension and differentiation of activities are suggested.

Resource summary

Activity one:

Battle



This activity engages students in the landscape and unique camerawork of the film through close analysis of the camera shots used in the dynamic 'Battle' clip. This then leads students to develop their descriptive writing skills by collaboratively creating and performing audience descriptions of the clip.

Activity two:

Moment of power

The powerful 'Coronation' clip forms the stimulus for students giving their predictions of the soundtrack before analysing the sound design used within the clip.

Activity three:

Trailer quotes

In this activity, students are challenged to try two methods of memorising quotes before considering how quotes can be used to reflect different themes within the film.

Activity four:

Quote off



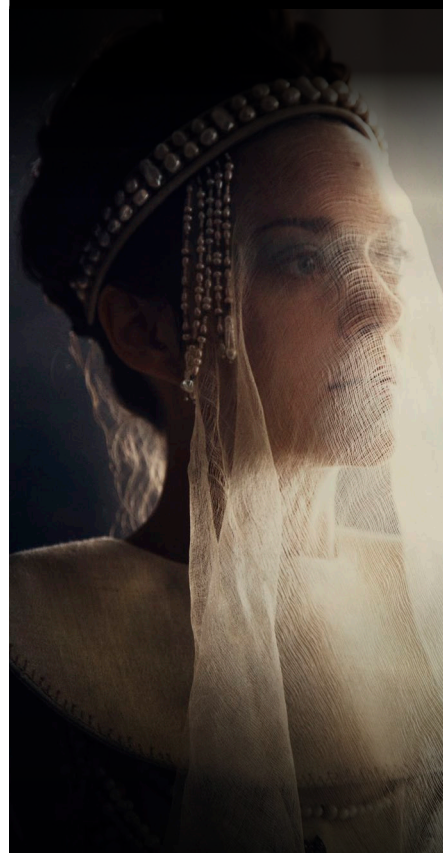
Students are tasked with performing and filming a single quote used in the clip in the most creative way possible. Following peer feedback, students will have the opportunity to improve their films and implement the comments.

Activity five:

Seats of power

Inspired by a selection of exclusive stills from the film, students will consider what the composition of the still reveals about the reality of the characters' relationships hidden beneath their outward appearance.

MACBETH 5,4,3,2,1 filmmaking task



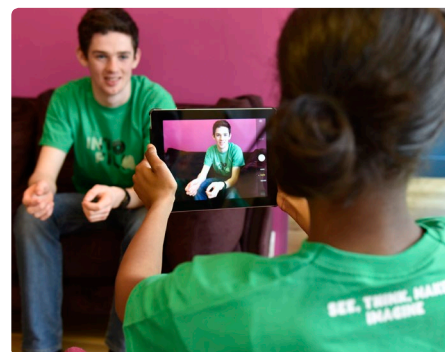
Building on the knowledge of the themes, quotes, camera shots and the characters used in the trailers, this competition allows young people to create a short film using only five shots and in-camera editing to explore one theme from the film in detail. Teachers can differentiate the task to support or challenge their students.

Guide to the activities:

	Teachers' Notes pages	PowerPoint presentation slides
Battle	5–9	2–6
Moment of power	10–12	7–12
Trailer quotes	13–14	13–21
Quote off	15	22–30
Seats of power	16–19	31–34
5,4,3,2,1, filmmaking task	20–21	35–40

Equipment

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Audio description worksheet
- Camera shots worksheet
- Social media worksheet
- Camera prompt card
- Sound Off/Vision On worksheet
- Sound prompt card
- Trailer quotes worksheet
- Stills from MACBETH
- Thought and speech bubbles
- Tablet/camera/digital camera
- Storyboard template



What are the benefits of Into Film clubs?

Supported by the BFI and the film industry, Into Film is one of the world's most extensive and fastest growing film education programmes for 5 to 19 year olds. It reaches 1 million young people each year through its UK-network of 12,000 film clubs, providing vibrant learning resources, training opportunities and online content. Using film as a powerful tool for learning, the organisation offers support and free CPD training to schools, colleges and youth groups, helping to raise attainment and encourage deep and active learning. The organisation also hosts the UK's biggest annual free film festival.

Visit www.intofilm.org for more information about us.

Activity one: Battle

Length: up to 60 mins

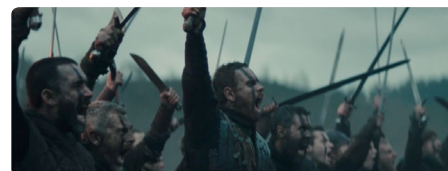
This activity refers to slides 1 to 6 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Camera shots worksheet (pg. 9)
- Social media worksheet (pg. 6)
- Camera prompt card (pg. 7)
- Audio description worksheet (pg. 8)

Learning outcomes:

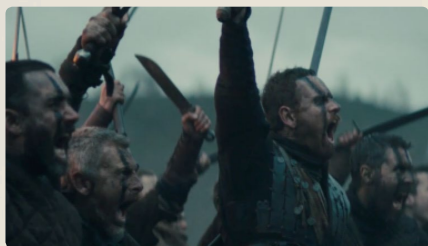
- To consider key themes from the play
- To become familiar with Act 1, Scene 1 of *Macbeth*
- To think about how the setting impacts upon the play
- To consider the qualities of an adaptation
- To relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts
- To produce a short audio description script



Activity outline

1. Slide 1 is the title slide.
2. Slide 2 explains the learning outcomes for this activity.
- ▶ 3. Play the clip 'Battle' on slide 3 of the accompanying **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.
4. Ask students to immediately write their first impressions of the clip as a short form social media message of 140 characters or less on the **Social Media worksheet** provided in the **MACBETH Power Players pack**.
5. Students can feedback on their first impressions by reading their messages aloud to the class.
6. Ask students to consider the answers to the questions on slide 5 of the **MACBETH Power Players presentation**.
7. Use the **Camera Prompt Card** (pg. 7) to further develop their answers to question 4 on the camerawork used in the clip on slide 5 of the accompanying **MACBETH Power Players presentation**. You can also replay the clip on slide 3 to help the discussion of this point.
8. Explain to students that they will now be creating an audio description of the scene. Give out the **Audio description worksheet** (pg. 8) in this pack to guide students through the process of creating an audio description. They will be describing the action, setting and characters in the trailer for visually impaired viewers.
- ▶ 9. Once students have completed this task, they can perform their audio descriptions to the rest of the class as the trailer plays or alternatively you can record the audio of their description using a camera or tablet. For further details on audio description please visit www.rnib.org.uk

Social media worksheet **MACBETH** Power Players



Hashtags:



Shot

A series of frames.

Point of view

The viewpoint from which the camera displays recorded action.

Framing

The composition of visual elements contained within a camera's view.

Angles

The position at which a camera is located when recording a shot.

Composition

The manner in which the elements of a shot are arranged.

Editing

The creative process of assembling shots and audio to create meaning.

- What shots can you identify? What are the different shots used for?
- Through whose eyes are we seeing the story? Are we seeing an objective or personal point of view?
- When does the camera move and when does it stay still? Why do you think this is?
- What type of camera movement is used? Why do you think the camera moves as it does?
- What camera angles are used? Why might high and low angle shots be used?
- Can the audience see what the characters see or does any action take place off-screen?
- What is in focus/out of focus? Why?
- How can you tell what the characters are thinking or feeling through what the camera does?
- How long do the shots last? How quickly are the shots cut together?

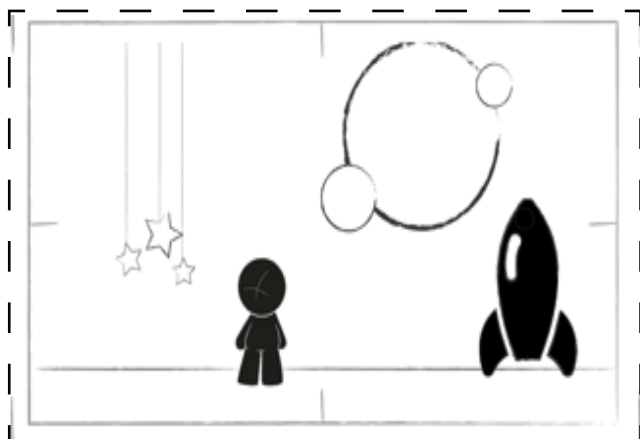
- 1 Watch the 'Battle' clip from MACBETH very closely. Make notes on what you think are the most important parts that would need to be described for people with visual impairments.
- 2 Write your audio description transcript. Make sure you include the following Top 5 Tips for Audio Description:

Top 5 Tips for Audio Description	Ideas
Punchy, powerful descriptions	
Simple sentences	
Interesting sounding words	
Rhyme and alliteration	
Sound effects for action used around description	

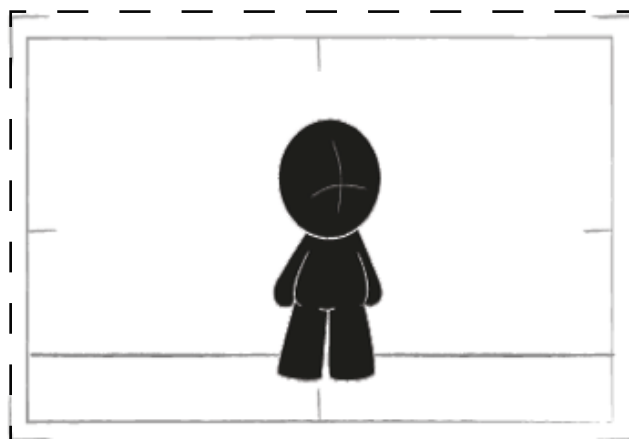
- 3 Read your description aloud to the rest of your group while watching the scene.
- 4 Peer assess your classmates' audio description by checking that they included all of the Top 5 Tips of Audio Description in their versions.



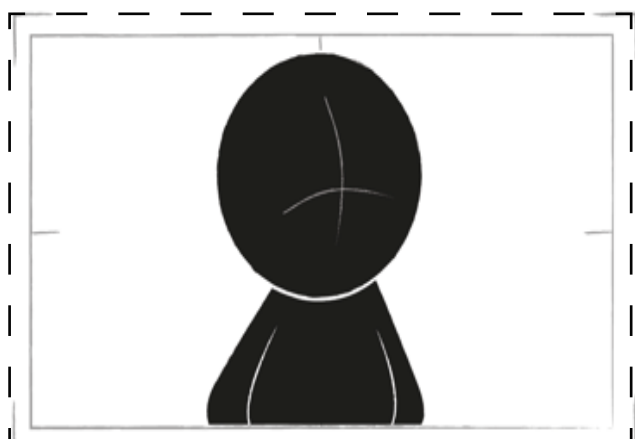
Cut out shot cards



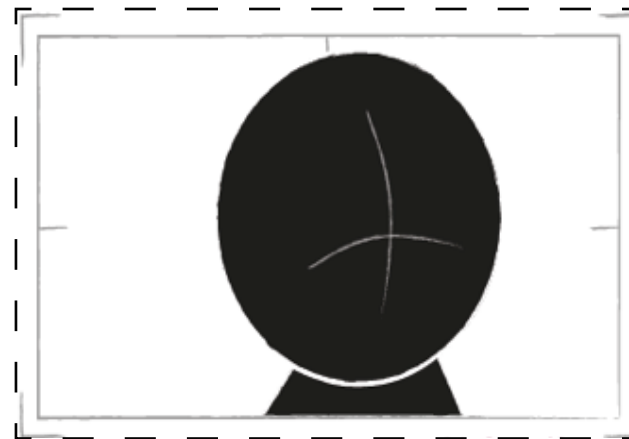
Establishing shot



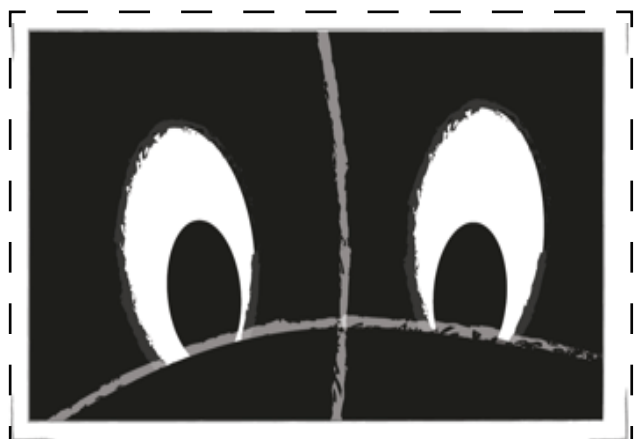
Long shot



Mid shot



Close up



Extreme close up

Activity two: Moment of power

Length: around 45 minutes

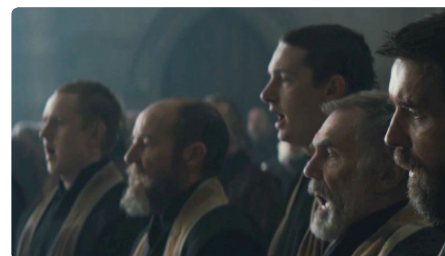
This activity refers to slides 7 to 12 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Sound Off/Vision On worksheet (pg. 11)
- Sound prompt card (pg. 12)

Learning outcomes:

- To develop an understanding of the key themes in Macbeth
- To consider characters and their relationships within the play
- To consider the importance of sound in a film
- To analyse the impact of the soundtrack on a film



Activity outline

1. Slide 8 lists the learning outcomes for this activity
2. Display slide 9 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** and ask students to fill in the **Macbeth Sound off/Vision on worksheet** as they watch the next clip.
- ▶ 3. Play the clip 'Coronation' on slide 10. Please note that the sound has been disabled for the purpose of this activity.
4. Ask students to fill in the worksheet after watching it. You may wish to play the clip more than once.
5. Lead students in a discussion about their predictions and the reality.
- ▶ 6. Watch the clip, with sound enabled, on slide 11 of the presentation.
7. Display the questions on slide 12 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** to guide a discussion on whether their predictions were correct. Elicit the sounds that they heard and discuss the reasons for this.
8. Here are some suggestions:
 - The music is sombre and ominous when a coronation is supposed to be a jubilant occasion.
 - There are disorientating, tremulous strings at the upper limits of their register which creates an unnerving feel and causes the viewer not to trust this character.
 - The strings and part atonal horn in the middle register hints at dark and troubling events to come.
9. Discuss how does the trailer helps the viewer to interpret the character of Macbeth and his relationship with other characters.
10. Give out copies of the **Sound prompt card** in this pack to guide students to develop their ideas further and to produce a detailed written or filmed response to this question.

Here are some suggestions:

An ominous mood is created by the chiming of the bell. Traditionally bells are used to soundtrack a day of judgment, or final reckoning in Western films.

During the first minute of the trailer only solo voices in dialogue can be heard but by the end this has swelled to the cries of the massed ranks to reinforce the power held by Macbeth to command an entire army.

There is a pause in soundtrack at 14 seconds after Macbeth says, "so foul and fair a day I have not seen"; this creates a 'breath mark' to allow the impact of his first words in the film to resonate.

Female choral voice is used to underscore the first appearance of Lady Macbeth. The melodic horn surges through the choral voices to hint at disturbance or doubt.

The sense of time and place is suggested by the use of period instrumentation, sounds like metal flutes typical of 11th century ensembles and gemhorns.

You will see but not hear the images from a clip. While it is playing, note in the boxes what you are seeing and what you think those images tell you about the film, or what sounds might be heard.

Image seen



What sounds might there be?



Sound prompt card MACBETH Power Players

Diegetic

Sound set within the world of the film, which characters within that world can hear.

Non-diegetic

Sound external to the film world, which characters within the film world cannot hear.

Motif

A dominant or recurring idea.

Sting

A sound or musical phrase used for emphasis, to introduce a character or to indicate dramatic climax.

Soundtrack

Musical accompaniment to the film.

Dialogue

The words a character speaks.

- What diegetic sound can you hear?
- What non-diegetic sound can you hear? Why has this been added?
- How do the combined sounds in the film make you feel?
- Is there a musical soundtrack? What type of music has been used?
- Does the music used suit the genre of film? Why or why not?
- How does music affect the mood of the film? What feelings does the music elicit in you as a viewer?
- Does the music change during the course of the film? When and why?
- Can you identify any sound effects that have been used in the film sequence?
- Are there any musical motifs or stings used in the film? When do they occur and why do you think they have been used?
- How many layers of sound are used? (Are there background sounds, additional sound effects, music, dialogue?)

Activity three: Trailer quotes task

Length: up to 45 minutes

This activity refers to slides 13 to 21 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

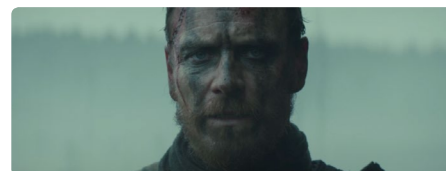
Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Macbeth trailer quotes worksheet (whole and cut up into separate quotes) (pg. 14)


Optional: Camera, tablet or stills camera and Storyboard template (downloadable)

Learning outcomes:

- To develop familiarity and understanding of key quotes from the play
- To consider and reflect upon different learning styles
- To further develop an understanding of the themes in the play



Activity outline

1. Slide 13 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** is the title slide for this activity.
2. Slide 14 lists the learning outcomes for this activity
3. Display slide 15, which explains the following task: in pairs, give Partner A the **Macbeth trailer quotes worksheet** in this pack. Give Partner A, 1 minute and 43 seconds to memorise as many quotes from the sheet as possible.
4. Partner B tests Partner A and makes a note of exactly how many quotes they can remember correctly off by heart.
5. Allow pairs to review Partner A's progress by reflecting on the questions on slide 16.
6. On slide 17 the task for Partner B is outlined, to memorise as many quotes as possible from the trailer with Partner A testing them.
7.  Play the trailer on slide 18 and ask Partner B to watch it carefully and try to remember as many quotes as possible.
8. Use slide 19 of the presentation to lead feedback. How did they find the task? Was one technique more successful than the other?
9. Lead feedback on the quotes that they are able to recall. How did they find the task? What were their strategies for memorising the quotes? Why do they think those particular quotes stuck in their mind?
10. Give out the cut out **Macbeth quote worksheets** and ask pairs to rank them according to the following themes in turn:
Ambition – Order – Disorder – Leadership – Superstition
11. Lead class discussion on their selections and ask them to explain their reasons.

Extension activity

- Ask students to use the **Sound and Camera prompt cards** to structure a written or filmed commentary of the trailer.
- Alternatively, students could create a traditional or photographic storyboard showcasing one of the themes explored. You can download a blank storyboard here: www.bit.ly/storyboard-template

Trailer quotes worksheet **MACBETH** Power Players

All hail Macbeth.

All hail.

All hail Macbeth that shalt be King

So foul and fair a day I have not seen

Come you spirits that tend on mortal thoughts
Hail King that shalt be.

Duncan comes here tonight

If we should fail
We'll not fail

I dare do all that may become a man
Who dares do more is none

This is the very painting of your fear

Macbeth shall never vanquished be

Oh full of scorpions is my mind

What's done is done

I am in blood stepped in so far

Activity four: Quote off

Length: around 60 minutes

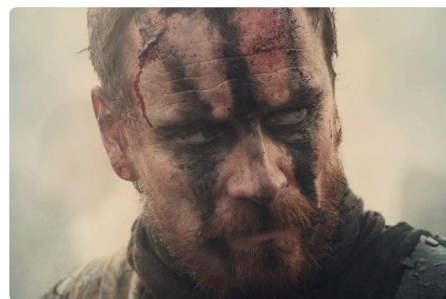
This activity refers to slides 22 to 30 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

Learning outcomes:

- To develop understanding and familiarity of key quotes
- To respond to texts critically and imaginatively

Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Cameras/tablets
- Tripod



Activity outline

1. Slide 22 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** is the title slide for this activity.
2. Slide 23 lists the learning outcomes for this activity.
3. Split the class into small groups and give each group a different quote.
4. Display slide 24, which outlines the task for students.
5. Give groups 15 minutes using cameras or tablets to film the quote in the most interesting way possible.
6. Slides 25 to 29 gives top tips on camera positioning, camera framing, lighting, sound and using a tripod. You may wish to print out these slides for groups to refer to. Ask students to consider the emphasis, tone of voice and body language that they will use to deliver their selected quote.
7. Play back each film and the rest of the class can peer assess by referring to slide 30 and offering advice on how to improve the filming of the quote.
8. Give groups another opportunity to film the quotes again but this time implementing the feedback from the class.
9. Review the improved films and discuss the effectiveness of each film and how it fulfils the success criteria.

Extension activity

To aid exam revision, students could select other key quotes from the play to film and then upload to the school's virtual learning environment.

Activity five: Seats of power

Length: around 45 minutes

This activity refers to slides 31 to 34 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

Learning outcomes:

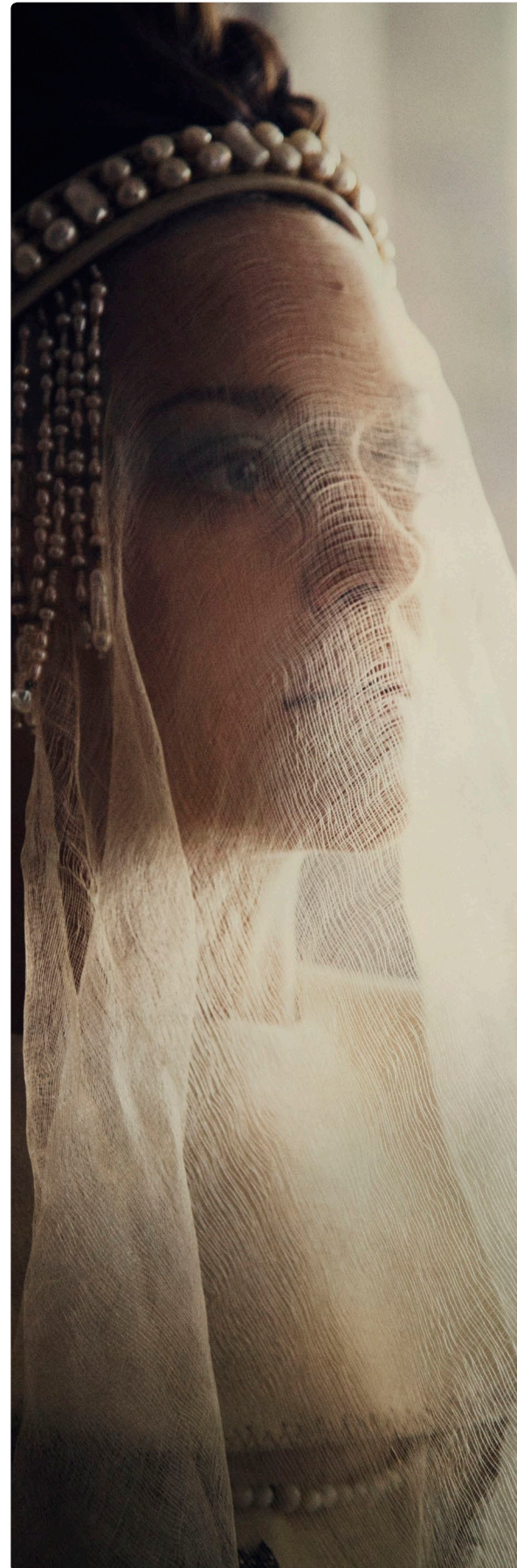
- To develop a deeper understanding of the characters and their relationships within the text

Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Cameras/tablets
- Seats of power stills sheet (pg. 17–18)
- Thought and speech bubble templates (pg. 19)

Activity outline

1. Slide 31 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** is the title slide for this activity.
2. Slide 32 lists the learning outcomes for this activity.
3. Give out the official **MACBETH stills** in this pack.
4. In groups, students are to recreate the pictured pose. Each person must identify with the character that they are representing and to decide what they would be thinking at that particular moment about Macbeth and the situation.
5. The class can then voice their character's thoughts to the rest of the class;
6. **Or**, write them down on enlarged versions of the thought bubbles available in this pack;
7. **Or** challenge students further by asking them to write down what the character would say in the pictured situation (or select appropriate quotes from the play). They can write these on the speech bubbles and what they are really thinking on the thought bubbles. You can challenge students further by asking them to use direct quotations from the play.
8. As an alternative to performing these to the rest of the class, students can take a photograph on cameras or tablets with the thought and speech bubbles held in place.
9. Ask students to consider how changing the characters' positions within the shot can alter the message created in the still. Take a photograph of the new positions with the speech and thought bubbles reflecting this change.



Macbeth stills

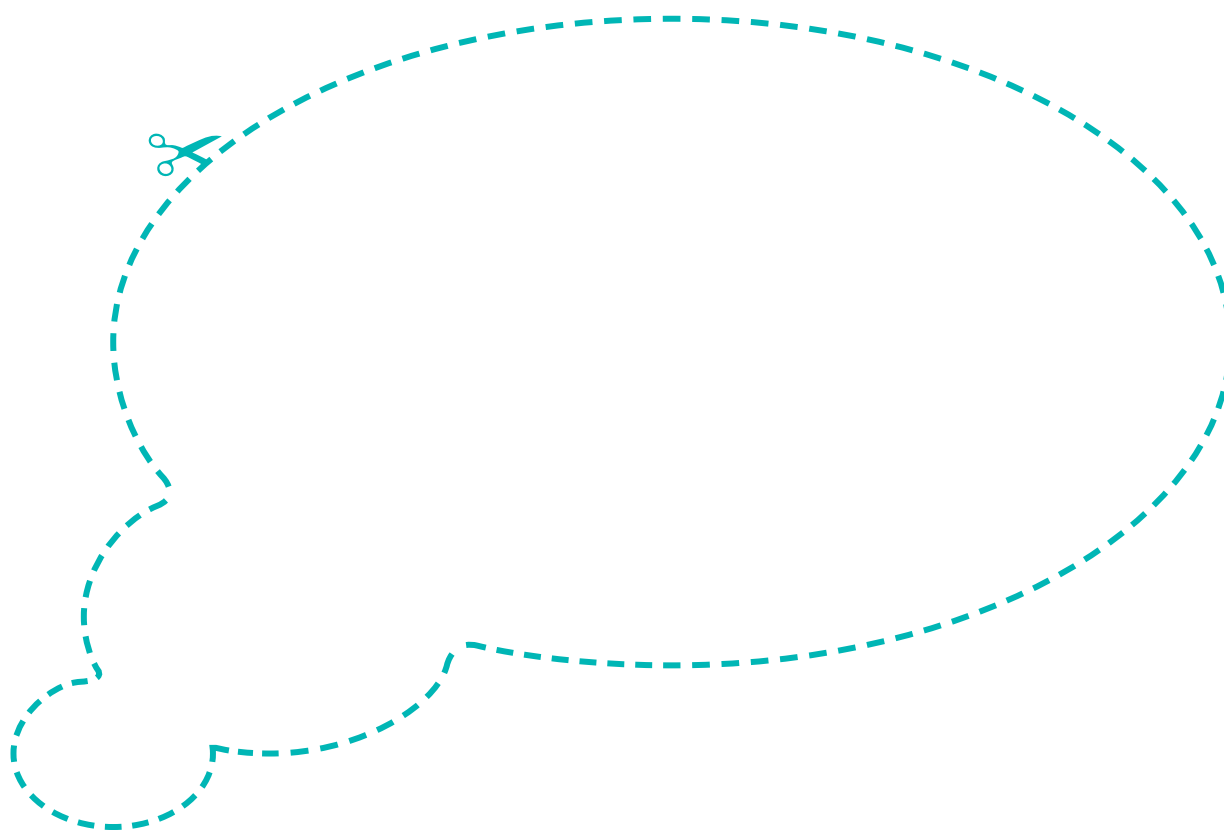
MACBETH Power Players



Macbeth stills

MACBETH Power Players







MACBETH Power Players 5,4,3,2,1 filmmaking task

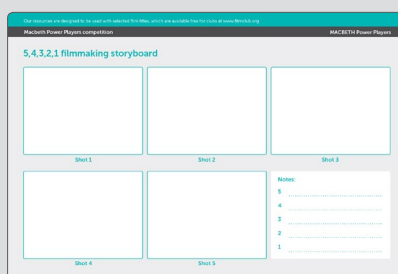
Length: around 45 minutes

This activity refers to slides 35 to 40 of the **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation**.

Equipment required:

- MACBETH Power Players Teacher Notes PDF
- MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation
- Cameras/tablets
- Camera shots worksheet (pg. 9)
- MACBETH Power Players 5,4,3,2,1 filmmaking competition storyboard (pg. 22)

Slide 36 of the accompanying **MACBETH Power Players PowerPoint presentation** provides only a recommended structure for the film. Teachers can differentiate the task according to their students' requirements. For example, increasing or decreasing the number of key quotes for more or less able students respectively. The sole constant is the use of only one theme within the film.



- 5 shots
- 4 key quotes
- 3 characters
- 2 locations
- 1 key theme

5,4,3,2,1 filmmaking storyboard



Shot 1



Shot 2



Shot 3



Shot 4



Shot 5

Notes:

5

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4

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3

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2

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1

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