

Macbeth's feelings



Feeling sorrow or guilt because you have done something wrong.
(Regretful, Guilty)

Feeling that you are not in control of the situation, and that you are being forced to act against your wishes.

ASHAMED

DESPERATE

Mapping the changing feelings and backing up ideas with quotes. Groups work on different parts and feed back to each other.

SUSPICIOUS

Feeling you cannot trust someone or something though you cannot say why.

"....I am in blood
stepped in so far, that should I wade no more
Returning were as tedious as go o'er"

36-38

(I have done so many evil things that there is now no turning back.)

Macbeth: Feelings

This is an activity originally developed in Leeds when we ran a workshop for schools in surrounding local authorities in 1995. We have mislaid the names of the teachers who developed this excellent activity. It was a very collaborative production! This activity, which helps students to chart the changes in Macbeth's feelings and back this up by quotes from the play, has been very popular since it was originally produced.

How it works.

Divide the class into five groups. Each group receives the quotes (with glosses) for a different scene of the play, plus a set of feelings cards. We cut the feelings out, pasted each of them on a slightly larger piece of coloured card and pasted their definitions on the back. Groups then need to go through their quotes, and decide which feelings cards they need to select to match the quotes. Groups can then feed back their results to the rest of the class.

This activity was last revised 20th April 2021.

The webaddress for this activity is:

www.collaborativelearning.org/macbethfeelings.pdf>

Our collaborative talk for learning activities are designed to:

...build on prior knowledge.

...move from concrete to abstract thinking.

...ensure everyone works with everyone else.

...extend social language into curriculum language.

...provide motivating ways to go over the same topic more than once.

Good for all pupils!

Vital for EAL pupils!

It's empowering to talk an idea through before you write about it!

If you can persuade students to do something simple together they will later jointly attempt something more difficult and challenging.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/macbeth.pdf>

ASHAMED

Feeling sorrow or guilt because you have done something wrong.
(Regretful, Guilty)

DESPERATE

Feeling that you are not in control of the situation, and that you are being forced to act against your wishes.

GLOOMY

Feeling sad and depressed.

DISTURBED

To be mentally or emotionally unstable, to feel not in your right mind. (Insane, Crazy).

WEAK

Feeling that you have no power, that you cannot cope with everything.

SUSPICIOUS

Feeling you cannot trust someone or something though you cannot say why.

SURPRISED

To feel emotions caused by something sudden or unexpected happening.

GRATEFUL

How you look and feel when someone has said or done something kind to you.

AMBITIOUS

Having strong feelings you want to achieve something. e.g. wanting to have power, success or money.

ARROGANT

Feeling very confident, Thinking you are always right. Feeling that you will always win.

BRAVE

Not feeling afraid and feeling you can face things. (Bold, Courageous).

CONFIDENT

Feeling that you are always right, or that you are better than everyone else. Feeling proud of yourself.

CONFUSED

Feeling unclear about things and unsure what to say or do.

CRUEL

Having no feelings for the sufferings of others. Enjoying other people's suffering.

HAPPY

Feeling pleased, cheerful and contented.

EXCITED

Looking forward to something.

HOPEFUL

Feeling certain and sure that you can do things well. Having faith in yourself.

PROUD

Feeling pleasure about yourself and your actions, that you are good and of value.

GENTLE.

Acting in a sensitive way;
being thoughtful about
other people's feelings.

SCARED

Feeling that something or
somebody will hurt you..

STRESSED

Feeling tense under pressure
and that you cannot cope.

STRONG

Feeling powerful, sure of
yourself. Able to cope
with everything.

CRAFTY

Feeling that you can
outwit people who trust
you, because you are
clever. Not caring what
happens to them.

TRUSTING

To have faith in someone
or something, to believe
that someone will only do
nice things for you and
they will not hurt you.

SECURE

Feeling that you cannot fail,
and that nothing can harm
you.

AMAZED

To feel great wonder, or
surprise.

GRATEFUL

How you look and feel when
someone has said or done
something kind to you.

ACT ONE, SCENE THREE

A

- 1) "But how of Cawdor? The Thane of Cawdor lives
A prosperous gentleman; and to be king
Stands not within the prospect of belief." 72-75

(I can't believe this because the Thane of Cawdor is alive and I will never be King)

- 2) "Into the air and what seem'd corporal melted
As breath into the air" 81 -82

(They seemed seemed to be flesh but disappeared into thin air)

- 3) "This supernatural soliciting
Cannot be ill, cannot be good,
If ill, why hath it given me an earnest of success,
Commencing in a truth ?" 130-133

(I'm not sure whether these predictions are good or bad, but if they're bad how is it that they have started to come true?)

- 4) "If good why do I yield to that suggestion
Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair,
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs." 134-136

(If they are good then why is my heart beating so fast, and my hair standing on end like they would do if these ideas were evil?)

- 5) " Function is smothered in surmise and nothing is
But what is not." 140-142

(I am really confused because everything seems to be upside down)

ACT ONE. SCENE SEVEN

B

1) "If it were done, when 'tis done, then 'twere well
It were done quickly." 1 -2

(If I've got to do this I want to get it over with quickly.)

2) "..He's here in double trust:
First I am his kinsman and his subject
Strong both against the deed; then as his host
Who should against the murderer shut the door
Not bear the knife myself." 12.....

(The King has two reasons to trust me. I am his relative and his subject, and so he trusts me. Also as his host I should protect him not murder him.)

3) "...his virtues will plead live
angels....taking off."
19-21

(Duncan's good qualities will outlive him and make me his as his murderer look bad.)

4) "..I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself
And falls on t'other." 25-28

(It is difficult to make myself murder him. My only reason is ambition, and if I let that get out of control I will get into serious trouble.)

5) "We will proceed no further in this business,
He hath honoured me of late." 31-32

(I have decided not to kill because he has been good to me recently.)

6) ".....I am settled, and bend up
Each corporal agent to this terrible feat
Away, and mock the time with fairest show:
False face must hide what false heart doth know ." 79- to the
end

(I have made up my mind to kill him, and will use every power in my body to commit the deed. You won't be able to tell from looking at me, what I am thinking.)

ACT TWO, SCENE ONE



1) "Is this a dagger I see before me,
the handle toward my hand, come let me
Clutch thee. I have thee not and yet I see thee still." 33-36

(I think I can see a dagger, but I could be imagining it. When I try to get hold of it it isn't there.)

2) "It is the bloody business which informs
Thus to mine eyes." 48-49

(The thoughts of murder are playing tricks with my eyes)

3) ".....Whiles I threat, he lives:
Words to the heat of deeds to cold breath gives." 60-61

(Talking about the murder too much will stop me from doing the deed.)

4) ".....The bell invites me.
Hear it not Duncan for it is a knell
That summons thee to heaven or to Hell." 62-64

(The bell is telling me it is time to go and murder Duncan. He mustn't hear it, because it will warn him he will soon be in heaven or in hell.)

ACT THREE, SCENE FOUR

D

1) "There the grown serpent lies; the worm that's fled
Hath nature that in time will venom breed," 49-50

(I'm pleased they have killed Banquo, but in the future his son will be a threat to me.)

2) "...If thou can't nod, speak too.
If charnel-houses and our graves must send
Those that we bury back, our monuments
Shall be the maws of kites." 70-73

(If you can nod your head, you can talk to me. How can the dead come back to life?)

3) "Do not muse at me my most worthy friends,
I have a strange infirmity, which is nothing ." 85-86

(Don't be alarmed at the way I'm acting, it's an illness I have.)

4) "Avaunt and quit my sight, let the earth hide thee!
Thy bones are marrowless, thy blood is cold." 93-94

(Get away from me, I can't bear to see you, because you are dead.)

5) "...I am in blood
stepped in so far, that should I wade no more
Returning were as tedious as go o'er" 36-38

(I have done so many evil things that there is now no turning back.)

ACT FOUR SCENE ONE

E

1) "Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth, beware Macduff.
Beware the Thane of Fife. Dismiss me. Enough." 87-88

(Be careful Macduff! I am going now. I have said enough.)

2) "Be bloody, bold and resolute. Laugh to scorn
The power of men. No man of woman born
shall harm Macbeth." 95-97

(Be brave and sure of yourself because you will be safe from anyone who was given birth to by a woman.)

3) "Be lion-mettled, proud and take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are.
Macbeth shall never vanquished be, until
Great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane hill
shall come against him." 90-94

(Be brave and strong as a lion, don't listen to worriers or about those who are against you, because you will never be beaten until Birnam wood moves to Dunsinane hill.)

4) "The castle of Macduff I will surprise,
Seize upon Fife, give to the edge o' th' sword
His wife, his babes and all unfortunate souls
That trace him in his line." 150-153

(I'm going to send murders to Fife to kill Macduff's family.)

ACT FIVE SCENES THREE AND FIVE

F

1) "Bring me no more reports, let them fly all.
Till Birnam Wood remove to Dunsinane,
I cannot taint with fear. What's the boy Malcolm?
Was he not born of woman?"

1 -3

(Let all my Thanes desert me, until Birnam Wood moves, I cannot be weakened by fear. I am not afraid of Malcolm, because his mother gave birth to him.)

2) "She should have died hereafter;
There would have been a time for such a word."

17-18

(I wish she had died later, because then I would have had time to grieve properly)

3) "Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,"

19-20

(Life drags on from day to day with no purpose.)

4) "..Out, out brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
and then is heard no more"

23-26

(Life is short and pointless, like a candle, shadow or a bad actor, which all either disappear or are never heard of again.)

5) "...! Fear not 'till Birnam Wood
Do come to Dunsinane'; and now a wood
Comes to Dunsinane'; Arm, arm and out!"

44-46

(I was warned that if the wood moved, I would be defeated. Let my army attack.)

6) "Ring the alarum bell! Blow wind, come wrack,
At least we'll die with harness on our back."

51-52

(Let the enemy do their worst. No matter how bad things are, we are going to die fighting.)