**Guiding Questions - Collection 5~ *The Tragedy of Macbeth* by William Shakespeare ACT II**

Read the drama *The Tragedy of Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. Then, reread the lines indicated with each question below. Answer each question, citing text evidence.

1. Sc. 1, Lines 6–20: Read ahead to find the probable cause of Banquo’s insomnia. What is it?
2. Sc. 1, Lines 16–18: Paraphrase these lines. What makes these remarks ironic? How does this help build suspense?
3. Sc. 1, Lines 25–28: What inference can you make after reading these lines? What specific information supports your inference?
4. Sc. 1, Lines 32–42: How does Shakespeare use Macbeth’s dialogue to develop the theme of fate vs. free will?
5. Sc. 2, Lines 15–19: Explain how Shakespeare creates tension in these lines. What specific examples support your answer?
6. Sc. 2, Lines 24–38: What conflict arises in this passage that could develop into a major theme? How does Shakespeare use the exchange between Macbeth and his wife to develop this conflict?
7. Sc. 2, Lines 39–41: What symbol is repeated here? What mental state might the inability to sleep reflect? How does this symbolism help develop the theme about guilt?
8. Sc. 2, Lines 56–72: Reread the dialogue between Macbeth and his wife in these lines. Which details shape and refine the theme of guilt? Does Lady Macbeth feel the same guilt as Macbeth? How do you know? Based on your response, form a preliminary statement of a theme about guilt.
9. Sc. 3, Lines 48–55: Which words set a foreboding mood in these lines?
10. Sc. 3, Lines 65–67: What metaphor does Macduff make in these lines? Why is this metaphor effective?
11. Sc. 3, Lines 75–80: Why are Lady Macbeth’s words ironic? How does this create suspense? How do Macduff’s words in lines 75–78 ironically echo Lady Macbeth’s speech in Act I, in which she calls on the spirits of evil to “unsex her”?
12. Sc. 3, Lines 85–90: How is the theme of guilt refined in these lines?
13. Sc. 3, Lines 102–112: How does Shakespeare invoke the theme of guilt here?
14. Sc. 3, Lines 115–117: What is Donalbain’s fear?
15. Sc. 3, Lines 129–140: What inference can you make about the kind of king Malcolm will be? What specific information supports your inference?
16. Sc. 4, Lines 20–30: How does the exchange between Macduff and Ross support the theme of ambition?
17. Sc. 4, Lines 38–39: What warning does Macduff convey in these lines through the clothing metaphor?