

Macbeth at the end of the play

On this side,  
write words to  
describe how  
Macbeth is  
presented here.

On this side,  
write words to  
describe the  
**imagery** that  
Shakespeare uses  
here.

clothing/acting/  
season/ passage of  
time/violence/eating/  
drinking/hands/light/  
weather

**Caithness on Macbeth (5.2 15-6)**

“He cannot buckle his distempered cause  
Within the belt of rule.”

**Angus on Macbeth (5.2 16-17)**

“Now does he feel  
His secret murders sticking on his hands.”

**Angus on Macbeth (5.2 20-21)**

“... now does he feel his title  
Hang loose about him, like a giant's robe  
Upon a dwarfish thief.”

Unfit king  
Not respected

← clothing

**Menteith on Macbeth (5.2 22-3)**

“Who then shall blame  
His pestered senses to recoil and start...”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.3 22-3)**

“I have lived long enough: my way of life  
Is fall'n into the sear, the yellow leaf...”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.3 31-2)**

“I'll fight till from my bones my flesh be  
hacked.”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.5 9-13)**

“I have almost forgot the taste of fears...  
I have supped full with horrors...”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.5 22-7)**

“Out, out, brief candle,  
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets his hour upon stage  
And then is heard no more. It is a tale  
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury  
Signifying nothing.”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.5 48)**

“I ‘gin to be aweary of the sun...”

**Macbeth on Macbeth (5.5 50)**

“Blow wind, come wrack  
At least we’ll die with harness on our back!”

Act 5: presentation of Macbeth  
*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

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There is a second imagery pattern in this section: illness and medicine. Look up these references and decide who is being described:

“... the medicine of this sickly weal” (Who is the medicine and who is ill?) 5.2 27-28

“With him pour we in our country’s purge / Each drop of us.” (Who is the cure here?) 5.2 29

“... a mind diseased” (Whose mind is diseased?) 5.3 41

“Throw physic to the dogs. I’ll none of it.” (Who is rejecting medicine here?) 5.3 48

“What rhubarb, cynne, or purgative drug / Would scour these English hence?” (Who is calling for medicine here and why?) 5.3 55-6

Then write your own paragraph summarising how Shakespeare uses the imagery of illness and of medicine to present Macbeth’s rule in Scotland in this act of the play.

