

2 – THE HERO OF THE BATTLE

How does King Duncan feel about Macbeth?

WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of paper, or a notebook and something to write with.
- A computer with internet connection, ready to play [this clip](#).
- A copy of Act 1 Scene 4 from Macbeth to read, either on the page or onscreen.

ACTIVITY

- Look at Ross's speech in Act 1 Scene 4. It starts 'The King hath happily receiv'd, Macbeth'. Write down all the words that you find interesting or that stand out to you, even if you don't know what they mean yet.
- Watch the clip above (between times codes 1:35 to 2:26) which explores how and why we can explore punctuation. Say Ross's speech out loud, making a beat every time you come to a bit of punctuation. What kind of picture is Ross painting of Macbeth? Make a list of the qualities you think Macbeth has after reading this speech.
- Draw your version of Macbeth the loyal soldier. Label him with these qualities.
- If you have time, look at the Captain's speech in Act 1 Scene 2 about Macbeth's achievements in battle. The speech begins 'Doubtful it stood'. See if this adds any details to your drawing.
- Ask yourself: What has this battle been like for Macbeth? How many men has he killed? What made Macbeth become a soldier?

EXTENSION

- Write a short speech from Duncan explaining why Macbeth should be promoted. This might be a letter that Ross carries with him but should outline the things Macbeth has done as well as his attributes and qualities that mean he deserves this from the king.
- Design a medal, or multiple medals, for Macbeth for his bravery and loyalty. How can you create these so it is clear what he has done to earn them? Maybe you could wear them and try to take what you know about Macbeth to walk around the room in character as this 'brave' soldier.