

20 – A NEW KING

Does Shakespeare make the end of the play a triumph of good over evil?

WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of paper, or a notebook and something to write with.
- A computer with internet connection, ready to visit [this page](#).
- A copy of the final scene from Macbeth, to read either on the page or online.

ACTIVITY

- Explore Malcolm's character in the above Learning Zone page. Look at his relationships, particularly the one with his father, Duncan. Why do you think Malcolm fled to England when his father was murdered?
- Look at Malcolm's final speech that ends the play. Read the speech out loud and make a list of all the positive words Malcolm uses and all the negative ones. How do you think Malcolm wants his people to feel? Does he want to reassure them? Or warn them? Why does Shakespeare end the play with this speech?
- Imagine you are Malcolm at the end of the play. Write your own speech to deliver to a broken Scotland. How do you want your people to feel? Film your speech as if it was a live broadcast to the nation.
- Ask yourself: What kind of king do you think Malcolm would have been if his father hadn't been murdered by Macbeth and none of this had happened? What kind of king do you think Malcolm will be now? Do you think he will rule differently and why?

EXTENSION

- Build a statue of the 'dead butcher and his fiend like queen' as a warning to the people of Scotland. You can design your statue first on paper or use yourself as a model.
- If you use yourself, try out a few different tableaux or still images of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as people see them. Remember to use the whole body to make your image clear. If you photograph yourself it might be easier to look back at the statues and make changes.