**Act 1, Scene 5 – Lady Macbeth (Part 3)**

**Activities:**

1. What is happening in this part of the scene?

2. Who do you think is in control in this scene? Explain your ideas using quotations from the text.

3. Lady Macbeth says Macbeth must look ‘like an innocent flower’ but be a ‘serpent’. What are the connotations of ‘flower’ and ‘serpent’

4. What does Shakespeare’s use of half-line do to the pace of the scene? What impact does it have and how does it reflect the feelings of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth?

5. Lady Macbeth does not hide her feelings in the same way Macbeth does. Why do you think this is?

6. ‘Your face… is a book where men may read strange matters’ and ‘Look like the innocent flower but be the serpent under’t’ are both metaphors of concealment. What do they suggest?

**MACBETH**

My dearest love,  
Duncan comes here to-night.

**LADY MACBETH**

And when goes hence?

**MACBETH**

To-morrow, as he purposes.

**LADY MACBETH**

O, never  
Shall sun that morrow see!  
Your face, my thane, is as a book where men  
May read strange matters. To beguile the time,  
Look like the time; bear welcome in your eye,  
Your hand, your tongue: look like the innocent flower,  
But be the serpent under't. He that's coming  
Must be provided for: and you shall put  
This night's great business into my dispatch;  
Which shall to all our nights and days to come  
Give solely sovereign sway and masterdom.

INCREASING CHALLENGE

**MACBETH**

We will speak further.

**LADY MACBETH**

Only look up clear;  
To alter favour ever is to fear:  
Leave all the rest to me.

*Exeunt*