Information

University of Oslo
Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages
Autumn 2024
ENG2327 - Shakespeare

The exam has five topics to choose from, and you will write an essay on one of them.

All questions must be answered in English.

What you write will be stored automatically every 15 seconds.

After starting the exam, you will see your remaining time in the upper left corner.

You are allowed to use an English-English dictionary, which is provided here in Inspera.

Break a leg!

1 Exam questions

Answer **ONE** of the following topics:

1. Write an essay on *Macbeth* 1.7, focusing on *EITHER* Macbeth's soliloquy at the beginning of the scene, *OR* the ensuing dialogue between the married couple **(text provided)**. What is Shakespeare most concerned to have us notice? Which key ideas or preoccupations in this scene does Shakespeare develop further in the rest of the play?

2. 'Who chooses me must give and hazard all he hath.' To what extent can this be said to identify the moral of *The Merchant of Venice*?

3. What does Margaret Atwood's novel *Hag-Seed* enable us to observe in Shakespeare's play? What might Atwood's reworking of *The Tempest* encourage us to reassess or reconsider?

4. What are the dramatic purposes of Laertes and Ophelia?

5. Write an essay on Othello's final speech **(text provided)**. How does it either resolve or complicate some of the key problems in the play?

Fill in your answer here

Format | B I U x_2 x^2 I_x | ↩ ↪ | Ω | Σ

Words: 0

Maximum marks: 0

Question 1
Attached



TEXT PROVIDED, QUESTION 1.

⌜*Taking her hand.*⌝

FTLN 0454 Conduct me to mine host. We love him highly
FTLN 0455 And shall continue our graces towards him.
FTLN 0456 By your leave, hostess.

They exit.

Scene 7

Hautboys. Torches. Enter a Sewer and divers Servants with dishes and service over the stage. Then enter Macbeth.

MACBETH

FTLN 0457 If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well
FTLN 0458 It were done quickly. If th' assassination
FTLN 0459 Could trammel up the consequence and catch
FTLN 0460 With his surcease success, that but this blow
FTLN 0461 Might be the be-all and the end-all here,
FTLN 0462 But here, upon this bank and ⌜shoal⌝ of time,
FTLN 0463 We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases
FTLN 0464 We still have judgment here, that we but teach
FTLN 0465 Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return
FTLN 0466 To plague th' inventor. This even-handed justice
FTLN 0467 Commends th' ingredience of our poisoned chalice
FTLN 0468 To our own lips. He's here in double trust:
FTLN 0469 First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,
FTLN 0470 Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,
FTLN 0471 Who should against his murderer shut the door,
FTLN 0472 Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan
FTLN 0473 Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been
FTLN 0474 So clear in his great office, that his virtues
FTLN 0475 Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against
FTLN 0476 The deep damnation of his taking-off;
FTLN 0477 And pity, like a naked newborn babe
FTLN 0478 Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubin horsed

Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on th' other—

Enter Lady ⌜Macbeth.⌝

How now, what news?

LADY MACBETH

He has almost supped. Why have you left the chamber?

MACBETH

Hath he asked for me?

LADY MACBETH Know you not he has?

MACBETH

We will proceed no further in this business.
He hath honored me of late, and I have bought
Golden opinions from all sorts of people,
Which would be worn now in their newest gloss,
Not cast aside so soon.

LADY MACBETH Was the hope drunk
Wherein you dressed yourself? Hath it slept since?
And wakes it now, to look so green and pale
At what it did so freely? From this time
Such I account thy love. Art thou afeard
To be the same in thine own act and valor
As thou art in desire? Wouldst thou have that
Which thou esteem'st the ornament of life
And live a coward in thine own esteem,
Letting "I dare not" wait upon "I would,"
Like the poor cat i' th' adage?

MACBETH Prithee, peace.
I dare do all that may become a man.
Who dares ⌜do⌝ more is none.

FTLN 0509 LADY MACBETH What beast was 't,
FTLN 0510 then,
FTLN 0511 That made you break this enterprise to me?
FTLN 0512 When you durst do it, then you were a man;
FTLN 0513 And to be more than what you were, you would
FTLN 0514 Be so much more the man. Nor time nor place
FTLN 0515 Did then adhere, and yet you would make both.
FTLN 0516 They have made themselves, and that their fitness
FTLN 0517 now
FTLN 0518 Does unmake you. I have given suck, and know
FTLN 0519 How tender 'tis to love the babe that milks me.
FTLN 0520 I would, while it was smiling in my face,
FTLN 0521 Have plucked my nipple from his boneless gums
FTLN 0522 And dashed the brains out, had I so sworn as you
FTLN 0523 Have done to this.
FTLN 0524 MACBETH If we should fail—
FTLN 0525 LADY MACBETH We fail?
FTLN 0526 But screw your courage to the sticking place
FTLN 0527 And we'll not fail. When Duncan is asleep
FTLN 0528 (Whereto the rather shall his day's hard journey
FTLN 0529 Soundly invite him), his two chamberlains
FTLN 0530 Will I with wine and wassail so convince
FTLN 0531 That memory, the warder of the brain,
FTLN 0532 Shall be a fume, and the receipt of reason
FTLN 0533 A limbeck only. When in swinish sleep
FTLN 0534 Their drenchèd natures lies as in a death,
FTLN 0535 What cannot you and I perform upon
FTLN 0536 Th' unguarded Duncan? What not put upon
FTLN 0537 His spongy officers, who shall bear the guilt
FTLN 0538 Of our great quell?
FTLN 0539 MACBETH Bring forth men-children only,
FTLN 0540 For thy undaunted mettle should compose
FTLN 0541 Nothing but males. Will it not be received,
FTLN 0542 When we have marked with blood those sleepy two
FTLN 0543 Of his own chamber and used their very daggers,
FTLN 0544 That they have done 't?

FTLN 0545 LADY MACBETH Who dares receive it other,
FTLN 0546 As we shall make our griefs and clamor roar
FTLN 0547 Upon his death?
FTLN 0548 MACBETH I am settled and bend up
FTLN 0549 Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.
FTLN 0550 Away, and mock the time with fairest show.
FTLN 0551 False face must hide what the false heart doth
FTLN 0552 know.

They exit.

TEXT PROVIDED, QUESTION 5.

OTHELLO, THE FINAL LINES OF THE PLAY (5.2)

OTHELLO Soft you, a word or two before you go.
I have done the state some service, and they know 't.
No more of that. I pray you in your letters,
When you shall these unlucky deeds relate,
Speak of me as I am. Nothing extenuate,
Nor set down aught in malice. Then must you speak
Of one that loved not wisely, but too well;
Of one not easily jealous, but being wrought,
Perplexed in the extreme; of one whose hand,
Like the base Judean*, threw a pearl away [*Quarto text: 'Indian']
Richer than all his tribe; of one whose subdued eyes,
Albeit unused to the melting mood,
Drops tears as fast as the Arabian trees
Their medicinable gum. Set you down this.
And say besides, that in Aleppo once,
Where a malignant and a turbanned Turk
Beat a Venetian and traduced the state,
I took by th' throat the circumcisèd dog,
And smote him, thus. ⟨*He stabs himself.*⟩

LODOVICO O bloody period!

GRATIANO All that is spoke is marred.

OTHELLO, ⌜ *to Desdemona* ⌝

I kissed thee ere I killed thee. No way but this,
Killing myself, to die upon a kiss. ⟨*He*⟩ *dies.*

CASSIO
This did I fear, but thought he had no weapon,
For he was great of heart.

LODOVICO, ⌜ *to Iago* ⌝ O Spartan dog,
More fell than anguish, hunger, or the sea,
Look on the tragic loading of this bed.
This is thy work.—The object poisons sight.
Let it be hid.—Gratiano, keep the house,
And seize upon the fortunes of the Moor,

For they succeed to you. ⌜ *To Cassio.* ⌝ To you, lord governor,
Remains the censure of this hellish villain.
The time, the place, the torture, O, enforce it.
Myself will straight aboard, and to the state
This heavy act with heavy heart relate.

They exit.

FINIS