Power Plays: Unit Overview

ENG2D, Grade 10 Academic English, Unit 4. 18 classes of 75 minutes (about four weeks).

The big question

What happens when ambition has no limits?

Students read Shakespeare's Macbeth through performance, investigation and debate, then write a thesis-driven literary essay and remake a key scene or create a film trailer.

Lessons

#	Lesson	Classes	Question	Expectations	What's inside
1	**Insult Generator**	1	How do we read Shakespeare?	R 1.5, 3.2, 3.3; OC 2.5	Insults from the play; decoder toolkit; context of 1606; Act 1.1
2	**The Prophecy**	2	How does a prophecy become a plan?	R 1.2, 1.4, 2.3; OC 2.6	Act 1; ambition meter; persuasion breakdown performed two ways
3	**Crime Scene**	2	How do we know what happened?	R 1.4, 1.6, 2.3; OC 2.2	Act 2; imagery tracker; crime board investigation
4	**Soliloquy Lab**	1	How does performance create meaning?	R 1.4, 2.3; OC 2.5, 2.6	Mark and perform a speech two ways
5	**Paranoia**	2	Why doesn't power make Macbeth safe?	R 1.4, 1.5, 1.6; M 3.4	Act 3; fear chain; group chat rewrite
6	**Apparitions**	1	How do prophecies trick Macbeth?	R 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 2.3	Act 4; decode the apparitions; hero to tyrant
7	**Unravelling**	2	How does the tragedy end?	R 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.3	Act 5; echoes; “Tomorrow”; tragic hero debate
8	**Who's to Blame?**	1	Fate, persuasion or choice?	R 1.4, 1.6, 1.8; OC 2.2	Mock trial of the witches, Lady Macbeth and Macbeth
9	**The Literary Essay**	2	How do you prove an interpretation?	R 1.4, 1.6; W 1.4, 2.7	Prompt menu; thesis ladder; peer revision (summative)
10	**Adaptation Project**	3	What does Macbeth say today?	R 1.5; OC 2.5, 2.6; M 3.4	Modern scene or film trailer (summative)
	Flex day	1			Catch-up, film clips or extra rehearsal

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Assessment

Type	In this unit
Assessment for learning	Act checks, trackers, decoder practice and case prep
Assessment as learning	Performances, group chat, trial, jury notes and peer revision
Assessment of learning	Literary essay (Reading and Writing) and adaptation project (Oral or Media), with rubrics in the Summative Tasks document

The play

Macbeth is in the public domain. Use your school's editions or a free online text; the play itself is not included in this package.

- **Folger Shakespeare Library:** a free, well-edited text online (folger.edu; search “Macbeth”)
- **Film versions:** short clips of the teacher's choice, previewed and shown under your school's licence

Act 5 scene numbers differ slightly between editions.

What's in each lesson

- Teacher lesson plan with expectations, timed sequence, differentiation, look-fors and answer guides
- Slides with speaker notes
- Student handouts and organizers
- Editable Word and PowerPoint files, plus PDFs

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