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| **Activity 10: I Do** |

*Identify the following in this example response which I have pre-prepared.*

* *Clear points at the beginning of each paragraph which relate to the question*
* *Embedded quotations*
* *Single word analysis*
* *Analytical verbs*
* *Authorial intent (what the writer is doing and why they are doing it.)*
* *Social/historical context*

*Pay close attention to how I am writing. You should aim to replicate this style of writing in your own answer.*

Macbeth’s ambitions are inextricably linked with violence; he needs to commit violent acts in order to achieve what he wants. Perhaps this is why he sees a dagger, which directs him to Duncan’s chambers. His ambition is making him see it. He even comments that ‘it is the bloody business’ which is causing him to hallucinate, suggesting Macbeth himself is aware that violence is the key to unlocking his ambition. Shakespeare may have used ‘bloody’ to warn audiences that if Macbeth does not change his ways, he will be stuck in a cyclical nature of violence which will never end, blindly leading him to his downfall. Through this warning, perhaps he wants his audiences to learn of the dangers of ambition and the trouble it can cause, cementing the play’s status as pro-royalist propaganda in the wake of the gunpowder plot, an attempt to end the persecution of Roman Catholics by the English government by killing the king. Macbeth’s ambitions are not too dissimilar to those of the failed plotters and the lesson is they learn is the same: actions have consequences and no-one can disrupt the Great Chain of Being.

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| **Activity 11: Exam Question** |

*Answer the following exam question. Use everything in this booklet to help you. If you need your copy of the text with you to help, you may use it but remember you will not have a copy in your real exam. Don’t forget to include the following:*

* *Clear points at the beginning of each paragraph which relate to the question*
* *Quotations*
* *Single word analysis (You could use your analytical verbs here too. Eg. ‘Shakespeare has Macbeth talk about ‘ambition’ to criticise…’)*
* *Authorial intent (what the writer is doing and why they are doing it.)*
* *Social/historical context*

*If you are unsure how to structure your essay, start with what Macbeth is like at the beginning of the play and explain how he develops. Remember, the question is asking ‘how far’ Shakespeare presents Macbeth as ambitious which means you need to make a decision and then use the essay to explain your thoughts. Is he very ambitious, partially ambitious or not ambitious at all? Why? Use the paragraph above to help you start if needed.*

**Starting with this extract, explore how far Shakespeare presents Macbeth as an ambitious character.**

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