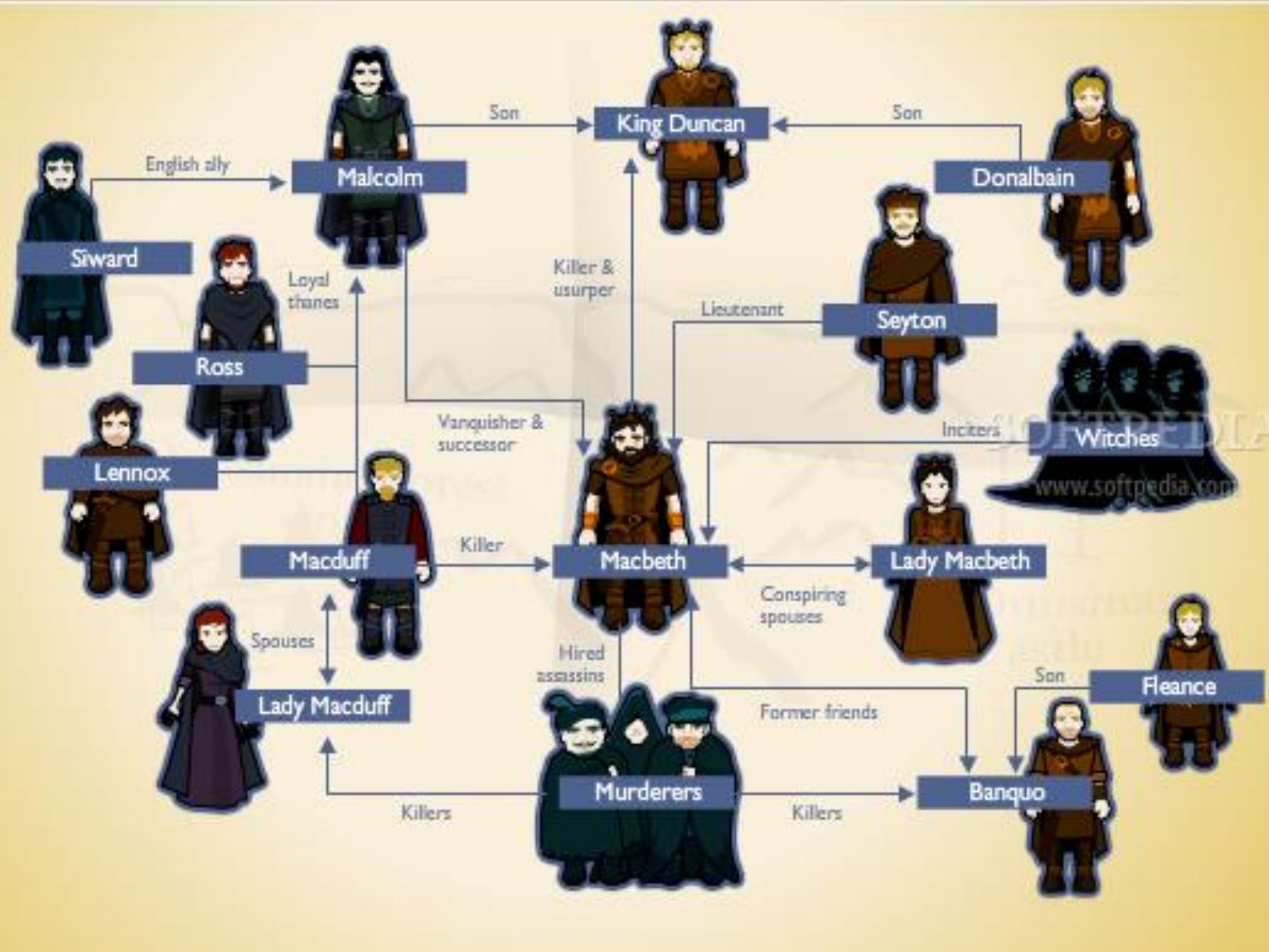


Macbeth,  
by William Shakespeare

Understanding the Plot

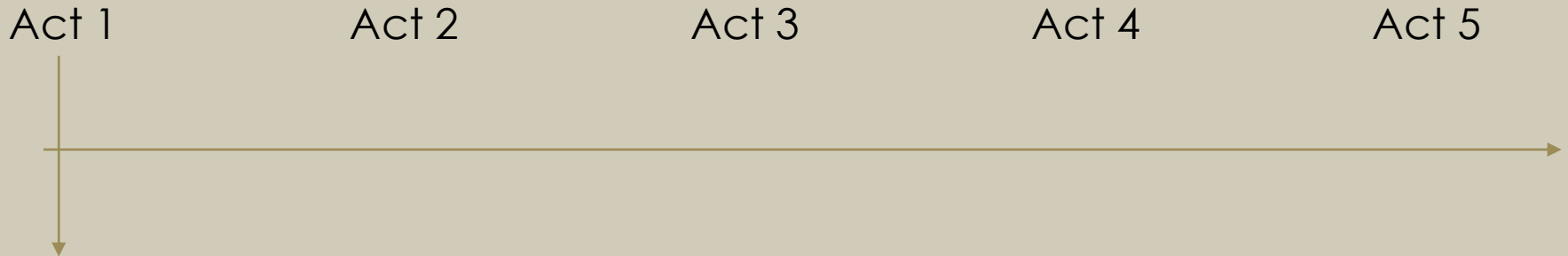
Vocabulary- draw an image to represent each word to help you remember the definition.

- Thane – Lord
- Assassin – person paid to kill others
- Reign – time on the throne
- Supernatural – not natural, mystical
- Heath – barren scrubland
- Prophecy – vision of the future
- Haunted – ghostly visions



# Act summaries

- Create a timeline which maps out the action of the plot. Include the key characters and events.



The witches start the play.  
Macbeth and Banquo return  
from battle and...

# Act one



Act 1  
Macbeth and Banquo defeat King  
Duncan's enemy.

They meet three witches who tell  
their future.

Macbeth and Lady Macbeth plot  
to kill the king.



- Macbeth is haunted by a ghostly dagger.
- Macbeth murders King Duncan while he sleeps.
- King Duncan's son flees and Macbeth is crowned King.

## Act 2



# Act three



- Macbeth fears Banquo but Lady Macbeth gives him the courage to act.
- Macbeth has Banquo murdered.
- Macbeth is haunted by Banquo's ghost. The court becomes suspicious.





# Act four



- The witches warn Macbeth of things he should fear.
- Macbeth has Macduff's family murdered but Macduff escapes.
- The old King's (King Duncan) son Malcolm assembles an army to defeat Macbeth and he is joined by Macduff.





# Act five



- Lady Macbeth goes mad and dies.
- Birnam Wood moves towards Dunsaine and Macduff kills Macbeth, fulfilling the witches' prophecies.
- Macduff and Malcom fight. Macduff wins and cuts off Macbeth's head
- Malcolm, son of King Duncan, is crowned the rightful King.

# Reading the Story

- Using your knowledge from the act summaries, and the work we've done in class, answer the comprehension questions.

# Comprehension Questions

1. Where did Macbeth first meet the witches?
2. Why was it significant that Macbeth was made Thane of Cawdor after meeting the witches?
3. Who comes to visit Macbeth's castle that night?
4. What does Lady Macbeth say to her husband when he is reluctant to kill the king?
5. Who was blamed for the murder?
6. Why does Macbeth try to kill Banquo and his sons?
7. What unusual guest joins Macbeth at the banquet?
8. What three vision do the witches see, when Macbeth visits them for the second time?
9. What happens to Lady Macbeth?
10. Who is king at the end of the play?

# Look for six errors

From this day, security plagued Macbeth. He ordered the death of Macduff's wife and children. This bloody deed lost Macbeth many friends.

## six errors

From this day, **in**security plagued **M**acbeth. He **order**ed the death of Macduff's wife and children. This **bloo**dy **de**ed lost Macbeth many friends.

# Circle the words on the wrong side. Use a dictionary if you need help

1. thane, lord, duke, queen

lady, duchess, king, princess

2. heath, moor, bush, oak

pine, scrubland, yew, fir

3. execute, fight, conflict, war

murder, kill, slay, battle

4. loyal, devoted, reliable, faithless

trustworthy, fickle, false, treacherous

5. magical, enchanted, mystic, mad

supernatural, crazy, foolish, barmy

6. eerie, ruthless, ambitious, striving

weird, peculiar, uncanny, determined

7. dark, shadowy, murky, gory

Grisly, ghastly, opaque, gruesome

Improve this sentence by adding more detail, or changing the words.

Macbeth and his friend Banquo walked home across a field, after winning the war.

# Recreate the end of Macbeth as a comic.

- Order these images
- Add text to the image
- Write the story under the image



