# Lesson 12- “Out, out, brief candle!”

# Act V- Scene 4-5

# Essential Question: How does Macbeth feel about life now that he has lost everything?

# Activator: We Wear the Mask

The author uses masks as a metaphor for the way we hide our true feelings and thoughts.

What does the first stanza say about why we wear these masks?

What type of mask does the author say should be shown to others?

What sort of emotion is beneath the masks?

Discussion: Who in “Macbeth” is wearing a mask and what is beneath it?

Analysis

**We Wear the Mask**

[**We Wear the Mask**](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/173467#poem)

By [Paul Laurence Dunbar](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/paul-laurence-dunbar) 1872–1906 Paul Laurence Dunbar

We wear the mask that grins and lies,   
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,—   
This debt we pay to human guile;   
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,   
And mouth with myriad subtleties.

Why should the world be over-wise,   
In counting all our tears and sighs?   
Nay, let them only see us, while   
We wear the mask.

We smile, but, O great Christ, our cries   
To thee from tortured souls arise.   
We sing, but oh the clay is vile   
Beneath our feet, and long the mile;   
But let the world dream otherwise,   
We wear the mask!

DDiscussion Notes:

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# Activity 1: Close Reading of 5.4- When the Bough Breaks

Definition: Bough (n.)- A main branch of a tree

Critical Thinking: What will it look like when each of the 10,000 men take a bough and walk with it towards Macbeth’s castle?

# Activity 2: Close Reading of 5.5- Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow

1. Discussion: In what ways is Macbeth’s reaction to the offstage cries he hears (Act 5.5, lines 9–17) different from his reaction to Duncan’s murder (Act 2.2 lines 65–76)?

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Activity 3: Quick Write

Based on the speech below, how does Macbeth feel about life? Use evidence from the speech to support your answer.

She should have died hereafter;  
There would have been a time for such a word.  
To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day  
To the last syllable of recorded time,  
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!  
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player  
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage  
And then is heard no more: it is a tale  
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,  
Signifying nothing.

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