Read the following extract from Act 3, scene 1.

Macbeth, now King, is alone, remembering the witches’ prophecies.

To be thus is nothing;
But to be safely thus.--Our fears in Banquo
Stick deep; and in his royalty of nature
Reigns that which would be fear’d: 'tis much he dares;
And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
To act in safety. There is none but he
Whose being I do fear: and, under him,
My Genius is rebuked; as, it is said,
Mark Antony’s was by Caesar. He chid the sisters
When first they put the name of king upon me,
And bade them speak to him: then prophet-like
They hail’d him father to a line of kings:
Upon my head they placed a fruitless crown,
And put a barren sceptre in my gripe,
Thence to be wrench’d with an unlineal hand,
No son of mine succeeding. If 't be so,
For Banquo's issue have I filed my mind;
For them the gracious Duncan have I murder'd;
Put rancours in the vessel of my peace
Only for them; and mine eternal jewel
Given to the common enemy of man,
To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!

Starting with this speech, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth as troubled.

Write about
• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in this extract;
• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in the play as a whole.

Plan:
Read the following extract from Act 3, scene 2 then answer the question that follows. At this point in the play, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are worrying that despite murdering Duncan, they are not secure as King and Queen.

**LADY MACBETH**
Nought's had, all's spent,
Where our desire is got without content:
'Tis safer to be that which we destroy
Than by destruction dwell in doubtful joy.

*Enter MACBETH*

How now, my lord! why do you keep alone,
Of sorriest fancies your companions making,
Using those thoughts which should indeed have died
With them they think on? Things without all remedy
Should be without regard: what's done is done.

**MACBETH**
We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it:
She'll close and be herself, whilst our poor malice
Remains in danger of her former tooth.
But let the frame of things disjoint, both the worlds suffer,
Ere we will eat our meal in fear and sleep
In the affliction of these terrible dreams
That shake us nightly: better be with the dead,
Whom we, to gain our peace, have sent to peace,
Than on the torture of the mind to lie
In restless ecstasy.

Starting with this conversation, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Lady Macbeth's relationship.

**Write about**

how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Lady Macbeth’s relationship in this extract;
how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Lady Macbeth’s relationship in the play as a whole.

**Plan:**
Read the following extract from Act 2, scene 1 then answer the question that follows.
At this point in the play, Macbeth is waiting for his wife’s signal to go to kill King Duncan.

Is this a dagger which I see before me,
The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee.
I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.
Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible
To feeling as to sight? or art thou but
A dagger of the mind, a false creation,
Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?
I see thee yet, in form as palpable
As this which now I draw.
Thou marshallst me the way that I was going;
And such an instrument I was to use.
Mine eyes are made the fools o’ the other senses,
Or else worth all the rest; I see thee still,
And on thy blade and dudgeon gouts of blood,
Which was not so before. There’s no such thing:
It is the bloody business which informs
Thus to mine eyes.

Starting with this speech, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Macbeth’s indecision.

Write about
• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth’s indecision in this extract;
• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in the play as a whole.

30 marks
+ 4 marks AO4

Plan:
Read the following extract from Act 5, scene 1 then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play, Lady Macbeth is sleep-walking while her doctor and gentlewoman watch.

**LADY MACBETH**
Out, damned spot! out, I say!—One: two: why, then, 'tis time to do't.—Hell is murky!—Fie, my lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to account?—Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him.

**Doctor**
Do you mark that?

**LADY MACBETH**
The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now?—What, will these hands ne'er be clean?—No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with this starting.

**Doctor**
Go to, go to; you have known what you should not.

**Gentlewoman**
She has spoke what she should not, I am sure of that: heaven knows what she has known.

**LADY MACBETH**
Here's the smell of the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh!

Starting with this conversation, explain how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth’s guilt.

Write about
how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this extract;
how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.

30 marks
+ 4 marks AO4

Plan:
Read the following extract from the end of Macbeth and then answer the question that follows. At this point in the play Macbeth is about to be killed by Macduff.

MACDUFF
Despair thy charm;
And let the angel whom thou still hast served
Tell thee, Macduff was from his mother's womb
Untimely ripp'd.

MACBETH
Accursed be that tongue that tells me so,
For it hath cow'd my better part of man!
And be these juggling fiends no more believed,
That palter with us in a double sense;
That keep the word of promise to our ear,
And break it to our hope. I'll not fight with thee.

MACDUFF
Then yield thee, coward,
And live to be the show and gaze o’ the time:
We'll have thee, as our rarer monsters are,
Painted on a pole, and underwrit,
'Here may you see the tyrant.'

MACBETH
I will not yield,
To kiss the ground before young Malcolm's feet,
And to be baited with the rabble's curse.
Though Birnam wood be come to Dunsinane,
And thou opposed, being of no woman born,
Yet I will try the last. Before my body
I throw my warlike shield. Lay on, Macduff,
And damn'd be him that first cries, 'Hold, enough!'

Starting with this extract, explain how bravery is presented

Write about:
• how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and Macduff as brave in this extract
• how Shakespeare presents bravery in the play as a whole.

[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]