

English 11B- Macbeth Psychiatrist Interview

It becomes increasingly obvious in the play that Macbeth and Lady Macbeth have mental health problems. Your task is to decide which problems and compose a fake interview with either character that diagnoses their issues and the causes.

1. Read and research the definitions of mental illnesses. Some have been provided for you on the back side of this paper. You may use other mental illnesses NOT listed on the back, but you will have to include definitions of them in your report and the sources you used to define them.
2. Choose 3 mental illnesses you think either character has and complete the attached chart. Make sure to cite the Act and Scene numbers for your evidence.
3. Write a fake interview, of at least 10 questions with the character that addresses the following. The character should be responding in 1st person, as if they're in your office for a therapy session answering the questions.
 - a. possible causes for this condition
 - b. behaviors that exhibit this illness
 - c. link from your chosen 3 illness to their behavior, dialogue and actions

Example:

You: Lady Macbeth, when did you first notice that you were having irrational fears?

Lady Macbeth: Well, it began after Macbeth was visited by the witches...

4. Then, write a report of your findings. This report should be 3-4 paragraphs and include a separate interview sheet of questions and answers. The report should cover your final conclusions about the character's mental health, including:
 - a. Why do you think this character has these specific mental illnesses?
 - b. What evidence of these disorders is there?
 - c. How has these mental disorders affected their lives?

Possible Mental Illnesses of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth:

Depression may be characterized by a depressed mood most of each day, lack of pleasure in most activities, thoughts of suicide, insomnia, and feelings of worthlessness or guilt.

Bipolar disorder (manic depressive disorder) causes a person to experience periods of mania and depression. In the manic phase, a person might experience inflated self-esteem and a decreased need to sleep. See above definition for depressed stage.

Anxiety disorder is characterized by irrational fears, often of everyday or minor things, and can disrupt a person's ability to concentrate. Anxiety disorders may also cause hyperventilation, a racing heart, chest pains, dizziness, panic, and extreme fear.

Schizophrenia can cause a person to experience, at some point in the illness, delusions (false beliefs that are firmly maintained in spite of obvious proof or evidence to the contrary) and hallucinations (sensory experiences in which a person can see, hear, smell, taste, or feel something that isn't there). It can also be accompanied by *paranoia*, an irrational fear, suspicion, or distrust of others.

Obsessive-compulsive disorder, or OCD, relates to uncontrollable behaviors such as cleaning, checking things over and over again, and hoarding objects.

Post traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, can develop after a life-threatening or very distressing situation that causes a person to feel intense fear, horror, or helplessness. Its symptoms can include the following: nightmares, flashbacks, emotional detachment or numbing of feelings (emotional detachment), insomnia, avoidance of reminders and extreme distress when exposed to the reminders ("triggers"), irritability, memory loss, clinical depression and anxiety, loss of appetite.

Personality Disorder is a deeply ingrained and maladjusted pattern of behavior that persists for many years. It is usually well established in later adolescence or early adulthood. The abnormality of behavior is serious enough to cause suffering or impairment either to the person involved or to other people. The experiences and behavior of the individual are extremely different from the expectations of the culture of the individual. These patterns are inflexible and pervasive across many situations.

Macbeth Mental Illness Chart

English 11

Character Name: _____ Your Name: _____

Choose the three mental illnesses that best describe Macbeth or Lady Macbeth's state of mind, and write its symptoms, as well as the character's behaviours that correspond to each symptom, in the chart. You must have at least EIGHT symptoms and behaviours altogether.

Mental Illness	Symptoms of illness	Behaviours of character that correspond to symptoms
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	