



Knowledge Organiser: Year 7 English

Shakespeare's Villains



Villain	Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Witches	Iago	King Richard	Caliban	Other Shakespeare villains we will look at
Play	<i>Macbeth</i>	<i>Othello</i>	<i>Richard III</i>	<i>The Tempest</i>	
Villainous traits / actions	Macbeth <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kills the king (regicide)• Ambitious• Greedy Lady Macbeth <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calls on evil spirits• Manipulative Witches <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Associated with the devil• Catalyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unclear motivation• Influences Othello to doubt his wife• Racism• Scheming• Uses others for his own ends• Disloyal and dishonest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declares himself a villain• Murders nephews• Rejected due to his deformity• Ambitious, greedy• Physically looks like a typical villain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forced into slavery• Reckless and abusive past• Physically ugly and looks "different"• Rebellious and defiant against authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claudius (<i>Hamlet</i>)• Edmund (<i>King Lear</i>)• Tybalt (<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>)• Don John (<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>)
Discrimination theme/ topic	<i>Feminism / patriarchal society</i>	<i>Racism</i>	<i>Disability / deformity</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Family dynamics</i>

Historical context

Queen Elizabeth I: – She was the monarch while Shakespeare was writing, and supported him. Elizabeth I made Protestantism the official religion of England, which angered many Catholics, and led to much conflict. Shakespeare may be referencing this in 'Romeo and Juliet', with the two warring families

Patriarchy: Patriarchal societies are ones where men are dominant, and have more power than women

Fate: The belief that your life is mapped out for you, or 'written in the stars'.

Tragedy: A play with tragic events and an unhappy ending. The deaths of Mercutio, Tybalt start the play's tragic events which culminate in the deaths of Romeo and Juliet at the close of the play.

Critical vocabulary

Antagonist – a character who opposes the protagonist of a narrative. Usually the villain of the story, but not always

Soliloquy – when a character speaks their thoughts on stage and only the audience can hear

Symbolism - When something within a text has a deeper meaning or represents something else

Machiavellian – Cunning, scheming, and dishonest, especially in politics

Themes

Conflict

Power

Fate

Loyalty

Family

Religion

Love

Hatred

Violence

Death

Key quotations – *Richard III*

"But I, that am not shaped for sportive tricks,
Nor made to court an amorous looking glass"

"I am subtle, false, and treacherous"

"And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover
To entertain these fair well-spoken days,
I am determined to prove a villain
And hate the idle pleasures of these days."



- **Retrieval Practice:** Read over a section of the knowledge organiser, cover it up and then write down everything you can remember. Repeat until you remember everything.
- **Flash Cards:** Using the Knowledge Organisers to help on one side of a piece of paper write a question, on the other side write an answer. Ask someone to test you by asking a question and seeing if you know the answer.
- **Mind Maps:** Turn the information from the knowledge organiser into a mind map. Then reread the mind map and on a piece of paper half the size try and recreate the key phrases of the mind map from memory.
- **Sketch it:** Draw an image to represent each fact; this can be done in isolation or as part of the mind map/flash card.
- **Teach it:** Teach someone the information on your knowledge organiser, let them ask you questions and see if you know the answers.

- **Test:** We will do regular low stakes tests to check your ability to retrieve information from memory.
- **Mark our answers:** Once you have done a low stake test you can mark your work using the knowledge organiser.
- **Improve our work:** Once you have finished a piece of work you may be asked to check your knowledge organiser to see if there is any information on it that you could add into an answer.

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