

# The Witches Vanish

Act 1, Scene 3:

**8** **MACBETH:** Stay, you imperfect speakers. Tell me more.

**18** By Sinel's death I know I am Thane of Glamis.

**27** But how of Cawdor? The Thane of Cawdor lives

**34** A prosperous gentleman, and to be king

**41** Stands not within the prospect of belief,

**50** No more than to be Cawdor. Say from whence

**57** You owe this strange intelligence or why

**65** Upon this blasted health you stop our way

**73** With such prophetic greeting. Speak, I charge you.

**75** *Witches vanish*

**84** **BANQUO:** The earth hath bubbles, as the water has,

**93** And these are of them. Whither are they vanished?

**102** **MACBETH:** Into the air, and what seemed corporal melted,

**111** As breath into the wind. Would they have stayed!

**121** **BANQUO:** Were such things here as we do speak about?

**129** Or have we eaten on the insane root

**134** That takes the reason prisoner?



## Quick Questions



1. Shakespeare uses the word 'imperfect' to describe the speakers. Can you think of another word to use instead?



2. Find and copy a word that means 'rich and successful'.



3. Where is this scene set?



4. ... have we eaten on the insane root

**That takes the reason prisoner?**

What do you think Banquo suggests has happened to Macbeth and himself? Explain your answer.

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129 Or have we eaten on the insane root  
134 That takes the reason prisoner?



## Answers



1. Shakespeare uses the word 'imperfect' to describe the speakers. Can you think of another word to use instead?

**Accept any reasonable answers that mean the same as 'imperfect', such as: faulty, flawed, defective.**



2. Find and copy a word that means 'rich and successful'.

**prosperous**



3. Where is this scene set?

**This scene is set on a heath. This scene is set on an area of open land.**



4. ... have we eaten on the insane root

**That takes the reason prisoner?**

What do you think Banquo suggests has happened to Macbeth and himself? Explain your answer.

**Accept any reasonable inference, such as: I think Banquo is questioning if they have eaten something that has made them unable to think clearly.**