

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.

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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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?



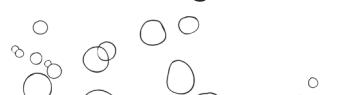
This scene is set on a heath. This scene is set on an area of open land.

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.