

Section A: Shakespeare

Macbeth

Read the following extract from Act 1 scene 6 of 'Macbeth' and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Duncan has arrived at Macbeth's castle following the victory in the battle.

DUNCAN

See, see, our honored hostess!
The love that follows us sometime is our trouble,
Which still we thank as love. Herein I teach you
How you shall bid God 'ild us for your pains,
And thank us for your trouble.

LADY MACBETH

All our service,
In every point twice done and then done double,
Were poor and single business to contend
Against those honors deep and broad wherewith
Your majesty loads our house. For those of old,
And the late dignities heaped up to them,
We rest your hermits.

DUNCAN

Where's the thane of Cawdor?
We coursed him at the heels and had a purpose
To be his purveyor; but he rides well,
And his great love, sharp as his spur, hath holp him
To his home before us. Fair and noble hostess,
We are your guest tonight.

LADY MACBETH

Your servants ever
Have theirs, themselves, and what is theirs in compt,
To make their audit at your highness' pleasure,
Still to return your own.

DUNCAN

Give me your hand.
Conduct me to mine host. We love him highly
And shall continue our graces towards him.
By your leave, hostess.

Starting with this speech, explain how Shakespeare presents the theme of appearance and reality in the play.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents appearance and reality in this speech
- how Shakespeare presents appearance and reality in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]