

Reading Shakespeare – <http://readingshakespeare.org/>
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Vocabulary Applications for *Macbeth*

Have You Ever...?

Describe a time when you might feel **anxious**.

Describe a time when your behavior might seem **perverse**.

Describe a time when you felt **ambitious**.

Word Pairs

Respond to these questions with a yes or a no, and then support your answer with reasons.

Pre-Reading: Can a **cynical** person be **naïve**?

Post-Reading: Are there characters in this play who are both **cynical** and **naïve**? Explain!

Pre-Reading: Could you remain **loyal** to a **deceitful** person?

Post-Reading: Is there one or more characters in this play who remains **loyal** to a **deceitful** person, and if so, why?

Pre-Reading: Is it always **irrational** to be **paranoid**?

Post-Reading: Is Macbeth's **paranoia** in Act 3 **irrational**? Defend your opinion with evidence and reasoning.

Alike and Different

Describe what is alike and/or different for these pairs of words that are semantically similar:

noble/valiant
anxious/paranoid
skeptical/cynical
cunning/manipulative
ambitious/treacherous
equivocating/deceitful

Word Continuums

Arrange your *Macbeth* character words in a continuum from good to evil.