**Answer NO-02**

“High ambition is the ultimate reason of the fall of Macbeth.” -I agrees.

**“Macbeth” is written by English poet, playwright and actor William Shakespeare of the**[**Renaissance**](https://www.history.com/topics/renaissance/renaissance)**era. F**ull title “The Tragedie of Macbeth”. It’s a [tragedy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shakespearean_tragedy) in five acts. It’s one of Shakespeare’s most famous tragedies. Macbeth tells a tale. It’s a tale of greed and lust for power and how the pursuit of such things inevitably leads one to their ultimate downfall. Macbeth is a Scottish general who has managed to lead his army to defeat invaders. Near the beginning of the play, a chorus of witches prophesize that Macbeth will eventually be made king of Scotland. Intrigued by the prophecy, Macbeth writes to his wife to tell her about it. She becomes consumed with thoughts of power and control and pushes Macbeth to commit unthinkable crimes in order to make the prophecy come true. It dramatizes the dangerous physical and psychological effects of political ambition on those who seek power for its own sake. The play has been divided into five acts. Macbeth is the protagonist of this play and in the beginning, he is loyal and brave. However, during the course of the play, his political ambitions overtake his loyalty. In the quest of securing the throne of himself and his future children, he commits a number of murders and ultimately is dethroned and killed. This play is about a Scottish nobleman and his wife who murder their king for his throne, charts the extremes of ambition and guilt. It is thought to have been first performed in [1606](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1606_in_literature). Macbeth’s three witches and other dark imagery have entered our collective imagination. All the plays that Shakespeare wrote during the [reign of James I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacobean_era), Macbeth most clearly reflects his relationship with [King James](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_VI_and_I), patron of Shakespeare's [acting company](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Playing_company). It was first published in the [Folio of 1623](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Folio), possibly from a [prompt book](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prompt_book), and is Shakespeare's shortest tragedy.

William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright and actor of the [Renaissance](https://www.history.com/topics/renaissance/renaissance) era. He occupies a position unique in world [literature](https://www.britannica.com/art/literature).  He is generally considered to be one of the greatest writers in the English language. He wrote about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems and a few other verses, of which the authorship of some is uncertain. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright. He often called ‘England's national poet’. He is considered the greatest dramatist of all time. His works are loved throughout the world. But he's personal life is shrouded in mystery. He was an important member of the King’s Men company of theatrical players from roughly 1594 onward. Shakespeare also spelled “**Shakspere”**, byname **Bard of Avon** or **Swan of Avon.** Known throughout the world, he's writings capture the range of human emotion and conflict and have been celebrated for more than 400 years. And yet, the personal life of William Shakespeare is somewhat a mystery. There are two primary sources that provide historians with an outline of his life. One is his work the plays, poems and sonnets and the other one is official documentation such as church and court records. However, these provide only brief sketches of specific events in his life and yield little insight into the man himself. Shakespeare's no birth records exist, but an old church record indicates that he was baptized at Holy Trinity Church in Stratford upon Avon on April 26, 1564. From this, it is believed he was born on or near April 23, 1564 and this is the date scholars acknowledge as his birthday. His father was a successful local businessman and his mother was the daughter of a landowner. He was the third child of John Shakespeare. Shakespeare had two older sisters and three younger brothers. Before Shakespeare's birth, his father became a successful merchant and held official positions as alderman and bailiff, an office resembling a mayor. However, records indicate John's fortunes declined sometime in the late 1570s. At the age of 18, he married [Anne Hathaway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Hathaway_(wife_of_Shakespeare)), with whom he had three children. After his marriage information about his life became very rare. But he is thought to have spent most of his time in London writing and performing in his plays. Between 1585 and 1592, he began a successful career in London as an actor, writer and part-owner of a playing company called the Lord Chamberlain's Men, later known as the King's Men. He produced most of his known work between 1589 and 1613. His early plays were mainly comedies and histories and these works remain regarded as some of the best work produced in these genres. He then wrote mainly tragedies until about 1608, including Hamlet*,*Othello*,*King Lear and Macbethconsidered some of the finest works in the English language. In his last phase, he wrote tragicomedies. What is also known as romances and collaborated with other playwrights. His plays remain highly popular today and are constantly studied, performed and reinterpreted in diverse cultural and political contexts throughout the world. Around 1613, at the age of 49, he retired to Stratford, where he died three years later. Few records of Shakespeare's private life survive. He died within a month of signing his will, a document which he begins by describing himself as being in "perfect health". In his will, Shakespeare left the bulk of his large estate to his elder daughter Susanna. Tradition holds that Shakespeare died on his 52nd birthday, April 23 in 1616. But some scholars believe this is a myth. Church records show he was interred at Trinity Church on April 25, 1616.

In **“Macbeth”** we can see at first Macbeth appears as a brave and courageous Army General who has won the battle through his bravery but later, we come to know about his real self when he receives the prophecies from the three witches.  The prophecies are that Macbeth will become the king of Scotland soon and children of Banquo, another army general, will inherit the throne in future. After these prophecies, Macbeth appears to be an evil, ruthless and overly ambitious person. He lacks the strength of character and starts doing evil to become the king. The thirst for power and position leads him towards a great downfall. On the other hand, Lady Macbeth, a violent and ruthless woman, persuades him to murder the king because of the lust of throne and power. He is a masculine soul in a female body that is strong and overly ambitious about her plans. In the beginning she strongly acts upon her evil plans but later she cannot carry the burden of her sins that leads her towards madness. This shows that no matter how strongly one commits sins, at some point in life those sins overly burden him/her and haunt him/her. Moreover, Banquo, who is faithful towards Duncan and does not plot evil to make the prophecy come true, is killed by Macbeth. But later on, we discover that his ghost starts haunting Macbeth and he starts acting abnormally. It shows the contrast between personalities of the two, Macbeth and Banquo. Both are ambitious and brave but Macbeth is evil and Banquo is virtuous because he does not choose a wrong path to become more powerful. Additionally, the king of Scotland named Duncan is also a virtuous and honoured king who is killed by Macbeth because of his lust for throne. Duncan is referred to as ‘King’ throughout the play whereas Macbeth is referred to as a ‘Tyrant’ when he declares himself as a king. It shows the contrast between a good king and a tyrant. Macbeth murders every person who comes on his way of becoming the king. He is a wicked and immoral person who commits sins whereas Duncan is a moral person who rules the Scotland justly and peacefully. The play also portrays the consequences and effects of thirst for power of a person who is morally weak and lacks the decisive power. Macbeth knows the consequences of his evil deeds but keeps on committing sins because he lacks the decisive power, he is constantly persuaded by his wife to murder those who are a threat to his kingship. It leads him to a tragic downfall. Here we can also see “High ambition is the ultimate reason of the fall Macbeth.” Ambition is the driving force of William Shakespeare's tragedy "[Macbeth](https://www.thoughtco.com/about-shakespeare-plays-2985249)." More specifically, it is about ambition that goes unchecked by any concept of morality; this is why it becomes a dangerous quality. Macbeth’s ambition inspires most of his actions and that results in the deaths of numerous characters and the ultimate downfall of both himself and Lady Macbeth. It is normal to think that ambition is a positive trait and it is something that people aspire to have, but too much can cause people to not think about their actions. This is definitely the case in Shakespeare 's play Macbeth. Macbeth shows that too much ambition can be negative. In addition, he becomes disloyal and shows signs of betrayal. Furthermore, the damage he causes ultimately leads to the downfall of Scotland. [Macbeth](https://www.cram.com/subjects/macbeth), from Shakespeare 's Macbeth, demonstrates through his downfall that often over whelming ambition leads to disloyalty ultimately resulting in destruction.

This is how “High ambition is the ultimate reason of the fall of Macbeth.”