

Student Handout #2: Comparative Texts

Examine the three texts below and answer the questions that follow:

Text #1

Hey You! Yeah, you!
Are you looking for the truth?
Worried about tomorrow? Losing your precious youth?
Calm down dude, us Witches are here for you
We spit prophecies that will make it clear for you

If you're a mortal with your fate hidden in a bottle
You should come this way, see our magic full throttle
With your future you can coddle
We can tell you if you pay, we did it for Macbeth,
Well, what did we say?

Thane of Cawdor, king hereafter
Everything came true, that's our power
Made a strong warrior devour and cower
Concocting the future at top of a tower

Bubble bubble
We the (wika wika) witches We toil and we trouble
As your fortunes double
Bubble bubble
We the (wika wika) witches
We toil and we trouble
As your fortunes double

Toil & Trouble Inc. by Patch and Punnet x Cherilyn Woo

Text #2

Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble
Double, double toil and trouble
Something wicked this way comes

Eye of newt, and toe of frog
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting
Lizard's leg, and owlet's wing

Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble
Double, double toil and trouble
Something wicked this way comes

In the cauldron boil and bake
Fillet of a fenny snake
Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf
Witches' mummy, maw and gulf

Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble
Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble

Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble
Something wicked this way comes

Source: Musixmatch
Songwriters: John T. Williams
Double Trouble lyrics © Warner-Barham Music LLC

Text #3

First Witch

Round about the cauldron go;
In the poison'd entrails throw.
Toad, that under cold stone
Days and nights has thirty-one
Swelter'd venom sleeping got,
Boil thou first i' the charmed pot.

ALL

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

Second Witch

Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the cauldron boil and bake;
Eye of newt and toe of frog,
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg and owlet's wing,
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

ALL

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

Third Witch

Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf,
Witches' mummy, maw and gulf
Of the ravin'd salt-sea shark,
Root of hemlock digg'd i' the dark,
Liver of blaspheming Jew,
Gall of goat, and slips of yew
Silver'd in the moon's eclipse,
Nose of Turk and Tartar's lips,
Finger of birth-strangled babe
Ditch-deliver'd by a drab,
Make the gruel thick and slab:
Add thereto a tiger's chaudron,
For the ingredients of our cauldron.

ALL

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

Second Witch

Cool it with a baboon's blood,
Then the charm is firm and good.
Enter HECATE to the other three Witches

HECATE

O well done! I commend your pains;
And every one shall share i' the gains;
And now about the cauldron sing,
Live elves and fairies in a ring,
Enchanting all that you put in.
Music and a song: 'Black spirits,' & c
HECATE retires

Second Witch

By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.
Open, locks,
Whoever knocks!

Enter MACBETH

Macbeth, Act I, Scene 1, by William Shakespeare
Source: <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/macbeth/full.html>

1. How are *Toil & Trouble Inc.* and *Double Trouble* different from the original text (*Macbeth*) by William Shakespeare? What similarities are there in terms of the choice of words used?

2. Why do you think the respective writers and composers have chosen to use these words? What is the effect created?

3. Which of the three texts do you prefer, and why?

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