

Mary Queen of Scots Murder Trial Script

7 Judge Tudor: Ladies and gentlemen, a terrible
15 crime has been committed: the murder of Henry,
22 Lord Darnley - husband of her most Royal
30 Majesty Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots and father
38 of his Royal Highness, Prince James. Who could
45 have committed this dreadful act? We have
48 three prime suspects:

- 55** • Her Royal Highness, Mary Queen of Scots;
- 60** • Her Royal Highness, Elizabeth I;
- 64** • James, Earl of Bothwell.

74 And so we need your help. You, the jury, are
82 gathered here today to listen closely to the
90 evidence given and the accounts of each suspect.
101 I will ask you to decide who is guilty of this
104 most terrible crime...



Quick Questions



1. Who has been murdered?



2. Compare how Mary Stuart and her husband are described. Who do you think is more important and why?



3. What phrases does the author use to show that this is formal speech?



4. Who do you think is guilty of committing the crime? Why?

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Answers



1. Who has been murdered?
Henry, Lord Darnley.



2. Compare how Mary Stuart and her husband are described. Who do you think is more important and why?

Accept any comparative answer, such as: I think Mary Stewart is more important because she is described as 'her most Royal Majesty' and 'Queen of Scots' but her husband is just described as a 'Lord'.



3. What phrases does the author use to show that this is formal speech?

Accept any answer that refers to formal language, such as: The author uses phrases like 'ladies and gentlemen', 'prime suspects' and 'gathered here today' to show that this is formal speech.



4. Who do you think is guilty of committing the crime? Why?

Accept any predictive answer, such as: I think Elizabeth I killed Lord Darnley because she was jealous of Mary.