Reflection and distance

The final, long scene of Act 4 takes place outside Scotland.

* Who does Macduff meet with?
* Why has he come to see him, and to England?
* What do we learn about the state of Scotland from what is said?
* Ross appears towards the end of the scene. What news does he have for Macduff?
* How does the scene end, and what is going to happen next?

The flow diagram below represents the path of the conversation between Malcolm and Macduff. Add suitable quotation evidence with line citations next to the boxes**.** *(comprehension: reverse from paraphrase to text evidence)*

# **Resource Sheet 14**:

“Malcolm reborn”

*…what I can redress, As I shall find the time to friend, I will.*

Macduff tries to persuadeMalcolm to **act** **now** to save Scotland, but Malcolm **won’t commit** just yet.

*Hold fast the mortal sword..*

*Macduff*

*Malcolm*

*…*

Malcolm **questions Macduff’s actions** – how come he is safe? How come he has left his wife and children?

*…*

**Macduff despairs** – thinking that Malcolm won’t help

*…*

Malcolm explains that he might be just as bad – **worse** even – **than Macbeth** as a ruler

*…*

Macduff **refuses to believe it.**

Malcolm **lists all Macbeth’s faults,** but then **says he is worse**, especially when it comes to **women.**

*…*

Macduff, hardly believing his ears, says that **there will be lots of women** keen on him, if that’s what he wants…

*…*

*…*

Malcolm says that’s not all – he would also be **greedy** and take everyone’s **money and land**.

*…*

Macduff says this is **worse than lust**, but balanced against his other qualities, would be almost acceptable.

*…*

Malcolm says he has **no qualities**! If he were king he would create chaos and confusion.

*…*

Macduff is **defeated.** He tells Malcolm that all hopes for Scotland’s futures are at an end, and **prepares to leave**.

Malcolm reveals that **he had been testing Macduff** to see if he was to be trusted, and that he had pretended to be sinful He reveals that **an army is already marching** **against Macbeth**, and that it will soon join them.

*…*