

"Out, Out—" by Robert Frost

Name:

Date:

ALLUSION

An allusion is a reference to a well-known piece of culture. The title of Robert Frost's poem "Out, Out—" is a reference to a famous soliloquy from William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. To fully appreciate the poem, you must understand the meaning of its title and its source.

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. **Out, out,** brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury
Signifying nothing.

MEANING: (In Your Own Words)

Lines 1-3

Lines 4-5

Lines 6-8

Lines 8-10

What is the overall point Macbeth (Shakespeare) makes here?

Explain why Frost chose "Out, Out—" as the title of his poem?