

## The Supernatural in *Macbeth* Handout

Choose one of the supernatural elements we discussed in class and write a 1-2 page paper that explores whether this element predicts, influences, or reflects Macbeth's behavior and character. In your essay, be sure to address the following questions:

- Where does the event happen within the play? What precedes it, and what later events does it affect?
- Do you think the supernatural event really happened or is it a figment of Macbeth's imagination? How does this affect how we interpret this event and its impact on the play?
- What does this element add to the play? Think about how it affects the mood, relates to themes, or reveals character.
- Does this event suggest that Macbeth is totally under the control of supernatural forces, or is Macbeth still responsible for his own actions?
- What particular lines from the play support your interpretation?