*Macbeth* 1.3 – 1.4 Literature Circles

**Directions:** Get into groups of five. Assign parts and read through the assigned scenes using No Fear Shakespeare (and bookmark this page for the future). Read the ORIGINAL text, but pick one person who can translate when you get confused. Try to work through the meaning on your own before turning to No Fear. Answer the guided reading questions AS you read.

**1.3 Roles:**

* **First Witch**
* **Second Witch**
* **Third Witch**
* **Macbeth**
* **Banquo**
* **Angus (one of the witches can be Angus)**
* **Ross (one of the witches can be Ross)**

**1.4 Roles:**

* **King Duncan**
* **Malcolm**
* **Macbeth**
* **Banquo**

**Act I, scene iii**

1. What does the audience learn about the Weird Sisters from their conversation at the beginning of the scene?

2. When Macbeth says, “So foul and fair a day I have not seen,” to what is he referring? What could be the dramatic irony in this line?

3. Describe the physical appearance of the Weird Sisters.

4. What prophecies do the Weird Sisters make regarding Macbeth? How does he react?

5. What do the Weird Sisters see in the future for Banquo?

6. How do Macbeth and Banquo react to the experience after the Weird Sisters vanish?

7. As the others talk, what does Macbeth’s aside reveal about his thinking?

8. What does Macbeth mean in his aside about two truths being prologue to the act of the imperial theme?

9. Who might be considered a foil character to Macbeth?

**Act I, scene iv**

1. Why was the former Thane of Cawdor executed?

2. What literary device does Shakespeare use by having Macbeth and Banquo enter just as they are discussing the execution of the former Thane of Cawdor?

3. What announcement does the King make to everyone present and what is Macbeth’s reaction?

4. In his last speech in this scene, what does Macbeth reveal?