Macbeth Summative Assessment

Choose ONE of the following prompts below and write a well-reasoned essay. The essay should have a strong, complex thesis with supporting evidence from the play. Direct quotations must be cited by act, scene, and line number. Do not refer to yourself or the reader. Instead, present all of your opinions and interpretations as fact.

1. In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first scene of a drama introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the opening scene of *Macbeth* in which you explain how it functions in this way. In your essay, do not summarize the plot.
2. The conflict created when the will of an individual opposes the will of the majority is the recurring theme of many novels, plays, and essays. In a critical essay analyze the main conflict and discuss the moral and ethical implications for both the individual and the society. In your essay, do not summarize the plot.
3. Choose a complex and important character in the play of recognized literary merit who might, on the basis of the character’s actions alone, be considered evil or immoral. In a well-organized essay, explain both how and why the full presentation of the character in the work makes us react more sympathetically than the reader otherwise might. In your essay, do not summarize the plot.

Thursday, October 25: Please bring **two** copies of your best draft to class for editing

Monday, October 29: Final Draft due at the beginning of class.

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| Success Criteria | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Feedback |
| **Thesis** is strong and complex**;** drives the essay’s argument. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Supporting evidence** is textually based; it is meaningful to the purpose of the essay. Quotes from the text are cited correctly. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Structure** of essay maintains a clear, relevant, and logical organization. Essay is organized into paragraphs which are simple to follow. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **A formal style** is established and maintained; an objective tone is used. Essay has a variety or words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among the claim, reasons, and evidence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **MLA format** and grammatical conventions are followed successfully. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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