

## Culminating Writing Task

### Activity 1: Analyzing the Prompt

How does the development and interaction of characters in the *Macbeth* build a central idea and reveal a theme?

To answer this question:

- Select one of the central ideas of *Macbeth* (e.g., the corrupting force of power, the manipulating forces within relationships, the effects of pride).
- Trace the development and interaction of characters in the play.
- Determine the outcome and impact of their development and interactions.
- Examine how that impact shapes and refines the selected central idea to reveal a theme.

Write a literary analysis using proper grammar, conventions, spelling, and grade-appropriate words and phrases. Cite several pieces of strong and thorough textual evidence to support the analysis, including direct quotations and parenthetical citations.

1. What kind of prompt is this?
2. What theme or central idea do you think you might like to write about?
  - corrupting force of power
  - manipulating forces within relationships
  - the effects of pride
3. Look back at the class plot diagram; record some of the descriptive words for Macbeth for each act.  
Act I \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_                      Act II \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Act III \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_                      Act IV \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Act V \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
4. How does Macbeth's character development "drive" the plot of the play?

### Activity 2: Writing a Thesis Statement

Write a thesis statement that fully responds to the prompt by including the title of the play, the theme you've identified, and the impact of Macbeth's character development on that theme.

Model: William Shakespeare's \_\_\_\_\_ play, \_\_\_\_\_, reveals  
(strong descriptive word) (title)

\_\_\_\_\_ through its complex characters and plot interactions.

(central idea/theme)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Activity 3: Topic Sentences for Body Paragraphs

The topic sentences should be precise claims. Use the templates below to help you organize your ideas.

#### Topic Sentence #1

In the beginning of the play, \_\_\_\_\_ is revealed when  
(central idea/theme)

\_\_\_\_\_ (description of the characters' interactions)

#### Topic Sentence #2

As the play continues and the plot becomes more complicated, \_\_\_\_\_ is further  
(central idea/theme)

developed when \_\_\_\_\_ (description of the characters' interactions)

#### Topic Sentence #3

\_\_\_\_\_

As the play comes to a close, the \_\_\_\_\_ is refined by  
 (central idea/theme)

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(description of the characters' interactions)

**Activity 4: Choosing Evidence**

For this essay, you must choose evidence from across the text. Complete the graphic organizer below to help you outline the order in which you will present your evidence. Remember to cite your evidence using MLA format.

ACT	EVIDENCE + CITATION	HOW DOES THIS EVIDENCE SUPPORT YOUR CLAIMS?
I		
II		
III		

IV		
V		