***Macbeth* Essay Topics**

All projects must include a 500-word essay, typed, double-spaced and formatted according to class expectations (established in the syllabus). Choose **ONLY ONE** of the following to do. It is expected of you to CITE YOUR SOURCES CONSULTED. This assignment is due **December 4th, 2014**.

**1. Cause & Effect Essay**

 *Write an essay regarding MacBeth that caused an emotional reaction in you:*

* What scenes caused you to react emotionally?
* Research the cause – language, content, etc.
* What was your reaction?
* How does the information in the selection relate to your reaction? Where they similar or different?
* Must be two-three pages long in proper class format (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**2. Character Analysis**

 *Write an essay and draw a character sketch regarding Lady MacBeth:*

* What clues can you find in the play suggesting that Shakespeare did not want us to judge her/him too severely?
* Does she directly or indirectly contribute to MacBeth’s downfall? How? Why?
* Does he directly/indirectly contribute to Hamlet’s downfall? How? Why?
* Analyze her relationship with MacBeth, using her conversations, actions, words, etc.
* Analyze his relationship with Hamlet, using his conversations, actions, words, etc.
* Follow class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**3. Purpose Analysis**

 *Write an essay probing Shakespeare’s mind:*

* What affect on MacBeth do the witches prophecies have? Why is he so taken in by them?
* What might Shakespeare imply about MacBeth’s character? The witches’ powers?
* Is he suggesting MacBeth is a victim of evil forces?
* What does this two plays suggest about Shakespeare?
* Follow class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**4. Tragedy Analysis**

 *Write an essay criticizing Shakespeare’s use of the following elements: Does MacBeth follow this pattern?*

* Protagonist
* Tragic Hero
* Antagonist
* Rising Action with Complications and a turning point in Act III
* Falling Action leading to a tragic climax
* Resolution
* Follow proper class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**5. Oral Interpretation**

 *Act out a soliloquy from MacBeth*

* Recite orally the soliloquy performed as a choir (like Greek Tragedy)
* Use variances in pitch, tone, tempo, rhythm, meter, etc.
* Record the changes and process you went through in order to get it “perfect.”
* Follow proper class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**6. Artistic Format**

 *Sketch a scene from each – the set, costumes, the stage:*

* Drawings can be included with the paper documentation.
* The set design must include:
	+ Drawings of furniture placement
	+ Lighting descriptions
	+ Costume sketches, with material and colors
* Outline your process to get the scene “perfect.”
* Follow proper class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**7. Expository Essay**

 *Write an essay explaining and create a poster of the affect of MacBeth on current life:*

* Why do we study *MacBeth* and other Shakespearean works?
* What do we have today directly acquired from Shakespeare’s *MacBeth*? Other plays you’ve read by him?
* You can research anything from superstitions, to elements in literature, to quotes we use, etc. Make it appropriate to class and this topic.
* Your poster should be a collage representative of Shakespeare and the works you’ve studied. Choose a shape that mirrors what you think is important.
* Follow proper class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**8. Exploratory Format**

 *Develop a website or PowerPoint presentation of MacBeth:*

* Include background information of the play
* Link pages with characters, famous quotes, plot, setting, pictures, and etc. Include a citation page.
* Research in depth to provide adequate background information.
* Publish the site/Present the PowerPoint for all classmates to see. Double-check your grammar and mechanics.
* Follow proper class format. (Typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)

**NOTES: Write down any questions, ideas, or concerns you have regarding your choice.**