An Essay on Character in *Macbeth*

Analyze the character of ether Macbeth or Lady Macbeth. Show, by reference to specific lines in the play, the means whereby this person's character is revealed:

- by direct description of a character by other people in the play,
- through the reactions of others to the character,
- by the character's interactions or conversations with others in the play;
- through the character's own actions, or
- by letting characters reveal themselves through soliloquies.

You need to decide how you will organize your essay on character:

1. By selecting at least three characters traits, and devoting a paragraph to each trait and citing lines and events from the play to support your analysis.

2. By tracing characterization from the beginning to the end of the play, examining internal conflicts and external actions, showing how the character changes.

3. By focusing on three speeches (or soliloquies) that reveal the character's true nature, closely analyzing how that personality is revealed in each speech.

   You will write an **introduction** which explains who your character is and which clearly states the focus of your essay, with an emphasis always on the personality of the character and evidence from the play to support that analysis. In other words, do not merely list every quote, but consider, analyze, and interpret the effect of the quote. As always, your introduction should end in your **thesis sentence**.

   You will write at least **three body paragraphs**, each with a **topic sentence**. Each body paragraph should include a minimum of **three** integrated quotes. More would be better.

   Finally, write a **conclusion** which makes a final point about the effect of the characterization you have discussed in your paper.

Format

   Final draft follows MLA style -- double-spaced, with one-inch margins all around. Use Times 10 or 12 point. You will turn in your plan page with your final draft.

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____ Score _____

Essay Plan Page on Character in *Macbeth*

Thesis Sentence: _____

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Topic Sentence 1: _____

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     Quote 1: _____

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     Quote 2: _____

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     Quote 3: _____

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Topic Sentence 2: _____

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     Quote 1: _____

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     Quote 2: _____

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     Quote 3: _____

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Topic Sentence 3: _____

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     Quote 1: _____

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     Quote 2: _____

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     Quote 3: _____

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Creative Title: _____