

***The Tragedy of Macbeth*** by Wm. Shakespeare  
**Act I - Study Guide**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Hr. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the purpose of the first scene?
2. What does Duncan call Macbeth when he hears Macbeth has defeated Macdonwald?
3. Who is sentenced to death?
4. What do the witches predict in Act I, scene 3 (I.iii) for Macbeth? For Banquo?
5. What news does Ross bring Macbeth?
6. Banquo, like Macbeth, is surprised and somewhat leery about the predictions the witches have made for him and Macbeth. What does he say about the motives of the "instruments of darkness?"
7. Malcolm describes Cawdor's last moments before execution. What is Duncan's reply?
8. Macbeth says, "Stars, hide your fires, Let not light see my black and deep desires." What are Macbeth's desires?
9. After Lady Macbeth reads the letter, what does she tell us is her opinion of Macbeth?
10. What is Lady Macbeth's "prayer" to the spirits after she learns Duncan is coming?
11. What advice does Lady Macbeth give Macbeth when he arrives home?
12. What are Macbeth's arguments to himself against killing Duncan?
13. What arguments does Lady Macbeth use to convince Macbeth to commit the murder?
14. What is Lady Macbeth's plan?
15. What is the central theme of Act I?