***Macbeth* Act IV Questions**

**IV.I**

1. What is the “something wicked” referred to by the Second Witch?
2. Explain each of the three apparitions that appear to Macbeth and the prophecy delivered by each apparition.
3. Describe Macbeth’s reaction to hearing and seeing these prophecies.
4. Explain this line spoken by Macbeth: “From this moment/The very firstlings of my heart shall be/The firstlings of my hand.” What does this thinking lead him to do?
5. How is Macbeth now different from the first Act?
6. What is his resolve at the end of this scene? How is this different from his previous actions?

**IV.II**

1. What does Lady Macduff not know that the audience knows?
2. What is Ross’s response to Lady Macduff’s questions?
3. What effect is created by the Messenger’s entering to warn Lady Macduff?
4. Why do you think Macduff’s family has been killed?

**IV.III**

1. What emotions are displayed by Malcolm and Macduff at the beginning of the scene? Why?
2. What additional evidence does Shakespeare give his audience that Macbeth is a tyrant?
3. How does Malcolm deliberately lie to Macduff? Why does he lie? What is revealed in Macduff’s response to Malcolm’s lies about his own character?
4. What literary device is Shakespeare employing when Malcolm says, “Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell”?
5. What is Macduff resolved to do at the end of the scene? Why?