



1.3 The Witches meet Macbeth

Audience

Will they meet Macbeth in this scene?
What will the witches say to him?
Who else will they meet in the scene?
Where will the next scene be set after the Military Camp?

Setting

Location: A heath between the battlefield and the military camp at Forres
Conditions: Thunder
Time: No specific time in the text presumably after the battle *before the setting of the sun*
Space: outdoors, nature, pre-human, elemental and now familiar to the audience

Character

Status: Macbeth has the highest status in the scene both before and after it
See: The men see women who do not fit their world view. The other men see Macbeth as a potential leader / warrior
Envy: The men envy the witches predictions. Banquo envies Macbeth's reputation. Macbeth envies Banquo's children
Predicament: Macbeth wants the power without the responsibility, all he can do is leave it to fate
Stakes: Macbeth – gain reputation (he doesn't want to kill Duncan) Banquo – order and common sense
Identity/unidentity: Macbeth – Noble warrior/confused man

Language

Pre-scene: After the battle what did the men talk about, what were the witches up to? They were very busy
Under poem: 129:144 – hair, ribs, fear, imaginings, fantastical, function, is, not – predicts what he will do to Duncan
Pronoun: 129 – 144 – me/I focus on himself at this point
Iambic: think about the regular 5 feet between 137:140
Hear: the witches prophesy – *All hail, Macbeth, hail too thee, thane of Cawdor!* 11 syllables

Impact

See: The witches, the character the play named after, his friend and then men sent from Duncan
Remind: The relationship between super-natural (women) – men – divinity (King appointed by God)
Think: How is Macbeth going to act? He could place himself in a moral vice.
Feel: Really curious to know what he is going to do next
React: what would they do in this situation would they wait for chance to *crown them without a stir*