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## Macbeth Act One Comprehension Check

**Directions:** To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the play, answer the following questions using complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to use your Scene Guide to help you if you need it.

### Scene 1

1. When, where, and with whom do the witches plan to meet next?

### Scene 2

1. Why does the Captain say he is "brave"? What did this brave man do to deserve the title?
2. Who was he fighting against?
3. From where has Ross come? What news does he bring?
4. What did Ross say Scotland demanded from the King of Norway? What did they promise in return?
5. Who gains the title of Thane of Cawdor?

### Scene 3

1. Summarize the story the first witch tells. What do the witches plan in revenge?
2. Why is Banquo confused by the witches when he first sees them?
3. When the witches first speak to Macbeth and Banquo, what do they say?
4. What do they prophesy for Banquo?
5. Why is Macbeth confused by the witches' prophecies?
6. Why have Ross and Angus come?
7. What does Macbeth mean when he says "Why do you address me in borrowed robes"? What does Angus tell Macbeth is the reason?
8. What does Macbeth mean by "the greatest is behind"?
9. In lines 127-129, Macbeth says "Two truths are told / as happy prologues to the swelling Act 1 / Of the imperial theme." What "imperial theme" is he talking about? What are the "happy prologues"?
10. In his soliloquy (lines 129-142), what problems does Macbeth mention? What does he decide to do about his issues (lines 142-147)?

### Scene 4

1. What do we learn at the beginning of this scene?

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Macbeth Literature Guide

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