MACBETH  PASSAGE ANALYSIS

Analyse the following passage in a well structured piece of writing of approximately 400 words. The following points and literary features must be addressed:

- The context of the passage
- The events of the passage
- Macbeth’s state of mind
- Literary features: the voice and tone of the character, the mood of the passage, the use of images to convey meaning, the choice of words, the use of rhythm and rhyme
- The deeper ramifications of the passage

Essay plan

Paragraph 1: Introduce the passage and describe in a sentence what occurs, e.g. Macbeth’s soliloquy(2.1.40-68) presents a soldier struggling with his conscience as he moves towards killing his honourable King.

Paragraph 2: Explain the context for the passage and describe what is happening in the passage in detail.

Paragraph 3: Describe Macbeth’s state of mind. Identify the tone of the character and mood of the passage and note any tone and mood shifts.

Paragraph 4: Discuss the use of images and symbols used to convey meaning.

Paragraph 5: Comment on the choice of soft or hard words (diction) and the rhythm and rhyme of the lines.

Paragraph 6: Present the deeper ramifications of the passage.