**Semester I Language Arts Formal Literary Analysis Essay:**

***Macbeth* Essay Honors Prompt Choices**

1. Trace Shakespeare’s use of one of the following images (blood, sleep, hands, milk, birds, stars, dreams or night) and explain the significance of that image.
2. Analyze the significance of the paradox “Fair is foul and foul is fair …” in the play.
3. Select one of the following topics and identify a related theme inherent in the text. Show *how* it is illustrated and developed through Shakespeare’s use of a dominant literary convention (imagery, metaphor, motif, irony, personification, symbolism, etc.)

* Power
* Ambition, Guilt, and Fear
* Deception
* War

1. Compare and contrast Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. To what extent do these characters change over the course of the play and what is a related theme?
2. To what extent does Macbeth’s duality between his internal and external persona cause his violent actions throughout the play?
3. Compare and contrast Lady Macbeth and Lady Macduff. How does this character foil contribute to Shakespeare’s message on femininity and womanhood?