MACBETH ACT IV QUESTIONS   Name _____
BRITISH LIT
MRS. PILGREEN   Date _____   Hour _____

CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION
1. Briefly summarize what each of the three apparitions tells Macbeth and what the final vision shows him:
   a. Armed Head:

   b. Bloody Baby:

   c. Child with Branch:

   d. Final Vision:

2. What happens to Macbeth's family?

3. How does Malcolm test Macduff?

4. What convinces Malcolm that Macduff is trustworthy?

5. What news does Ross bring from Scotland?

CRITICAL THINKING
1. Why does Macbeth accept the predictions made by the second and third apparitions?

2. What does the murder of Macduff's family suggest about Macbeth's state of mind?

3. What does the dialogue in IV. Iii. reveal about Malcolm's character?

4. how would you characterize Macduff based on his reaction to the murder of his wife and son?

5. In staging Macbeth, some producers eliminate IV. ii. Why do you think they might make this cut?

6. Do you blame Macduff for abandoning his family? Why or why not?

7. If Shakespeare were alive today, do you think that he would argue that evildoers are primarily influenced by genetics, upbringing, or their own free choice?

LITERARY FOCUS: IMAGERY *Choose **two** questions to answer.*
1. Find two images of sickness (Act IV scene iii). Explain how these images relate to the conflict between Macbeth and Malcolm.

2. Find two images of babies (Act IV scene i and Act IV scene ii). Explain why Macbeth seems to be at war with children.

3. Find two images of a fallen world (Act IV scene iii). Explain what these images imply about the current state of Scotland.

VOCABULARY BUILDER
1. What influence in this play is the most *pernicious*? Why?

2. Which character do you think is the most *judicious*? Why?

3. If you were staging IV, i, what *sundry* items might you have lying around the witches' haunt?

4. Does *intemperance*, rather than ambition, cause Macbeth's downfall?

5. Is ambition a kind of *avarice*? Why or why not?

6. How would you refute someone claiming that Malcolm is too *credulous* to rule Scotland?