**Macbeth Written Assignment 1**

Read the following extract from Act 1, Scene 3 and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Macbeth and Banquo have just spoken with the Witches. Macbeth has been told he will be King.

*Macbeth (aside) Two truths are told,*

*As happy prologues to the swelling act*

*Of the imperial theme.* ***(to ROSS and ANGUS)*** *I thank you gentlemen.*

***(aside)*** *This supernatural soliciting*

*Cannot be ill, cannot be good. If ill,*

*Why hath it given me earnest success,*

*Commencing in a truth? I am thane of Cawdor.*

*If good, why do I yield to that suggestion*

*Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair*

*And make my seated heart knock at my ribs,*

*Against the use of nature? Present fears*

*Are less than horrible imaginings.*

*My thought, whose murder yet is by fantastical,*

*Shakes so my single state of man*

*That function is smothered in surmise,*

*And nothing is but what is not.*

Starting with this extract, write about how Shakespeare presents witchcraft and the supernatural.

Write about:

* How Shakespeare presents Macbeth’s reaction to the witches

How Shakespeare presents witchcraft and the supernatural in the play as a whole.