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

At this point in the play Macbeth is speaking. He has just received news that the murderers have arrived, at his bidding, at the castle.

Macbeth

Bring them before us.
To be thus, is nothing, but to be safely thus.
Our fears in Banquo stick deep,
And in his royalty of nature reigns that
Which would be feared. 'Tis much he dares,
And, to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
To act in safety. There is none but he
Whose being I do fear. And under yhim
My genius is rebuked, as it is said
Mark Antony's was by Caesar. He chid the sisters,
When first they put the name of king upon me,
And bade them speak to him. Then prophet-like,
They hailed him father to a line of kings.
Upon my head they place a fruitless crown,
And put a barren sceptre in my grip,
Thence to be wrenched with an unlineal hand,
No son of mine succeeding. If't be so,
For Banquo's issue have I 'filed my mind:
For them, the gracious Duncan have I murdered:
Put rancours in the vessel of my peace
Only for them: and mine eternal jewel
Given to the common enemy of man,
To make them kings: the seed of Banquot kings.
Rather than so, come Fate , into the list,
And champion me to th' utterance! – Who's there?

Starting with this speech explain how you think the play explores the idea of a tragic villain.

Write about how:

- **How Shakespeare develops Macbeth's villainous side in this soliloquy.**
- **How Shakespeare develops Macbeth into a tragic villain throughout the play.**

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]