Macbeth Read the following extract from *Macbeth* Act 4 Scene 1, and answer the question that follows it.

At this point in the play, Macbeth has sought out the witches to learn his fate, but they have decided to trick him. They show him visions.

FIRST APPARITION
Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth: beware Macduff,
Beware the Thane of Fife. Dismiss me. Enough.

Descends

MACBETH
Whate'er thou art, for thy good caution, thanks;
Thou hast harped my fear aright. But one word more,—
FIRST WITCH
He will not be commanded. Here's another,
More potent than the first.

Thunder. Second Apparition, a bloody child

SECOND APPARITION
Macbeth, Macbeth, Macbeth!
MACBETH
Had I three ears, I'd hear thee.
SECOND APPARITION
Be bloody, bold, and resolute; laugh to scorn
The power of man, for none of woman born
Shall harm Macbeth.

Descends

MACBETH
Then live, Macduff, what need I fear of thee?
But yet I'll make assurance double sure
And take a bond of fate: thou shalt not live,
That I may tell pale-hearted fear it lies,
And sleep in spite of thunder.

Thunder. Third Apparition, a child crowned, with a tree in his hand

What is this
That rises like the issue of a king
And wears upon his baby-brow the round
And top of sovereignty?
ALL
Listen, but speak not to't.
THIRD APPARITION
Be lion-mettled, proud, and take no care
Who chafes, who frets, or where conspirers are.
Macbeth shall never vanquished be until
Great Birnam Wood to high Dunsinane hill
Shall come against him.

Descends

MACBETH
That will never be:
Who can impress the forest, bid the tree
Unfix his earth-bound root? Sweet bodements, good.
Rebellious dead, rise never till the wood
Of Birnam rise, and our high-placed Macbeth
Shall live the lease of nature, pay his breath
To time and mortal custom. Yet my heart
Throbs to know one thing. Tell me, if your art
Can tell so much, shall Banquo's issue ever
Reign in this kingdom?
ALL

Seek to know no more.

01 Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and his anxieties.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and his interactions with the witches at this point in the play
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth and his interactions with the witches in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
A04 [4 marks)