**Quotations: Who Said Them and Why They Are Important**

**ENG 3UI**

**Why are quotations so important to a play?**

* They reveal something about a character such as a personality trait or a character’s motivation for doing something.
* They may reinforce a theme or pattern of imagery in the play.
* They may advance the plot.
* They may foreshadow important events.
* They may create suspense.
* They may establish relationships between characters or they may show relationships changing in some way.
* They may make the reader feel sympathy for a character or withdraw sympathy from a character.

**How do I answer quotation identification questions?**

Here’s a sample…

For any quotation identification, you should: identify the **speaker**, the person **to whom the quotation is directed** and, in your own words, explain why these lines are **important in some way**. 3 marks.

“And when we have our naked frailties hid

That suffer in exposure, let us meet

And question this most bloody piece of work,

To know it further”

**Answer:**

The speaker of this quotation is Banquo (.5 mark). He is speaking to the noblemen who are in the castle upon discovering that King Duncan has been killed. (.5 mark) This quotation is significant because it reveals something about Banquo. It reveals that he is skeptical about what really happened to the king and he will not simply accept Macbeth’s story that the guards killed Duncan. The reader believes Banquo is starting to distrust Macbeth (2 mark)