Macbeth Introduction
Shakespeare Refresher, Part 1

- Lived from April 1564 - April 1616
- Plays are broken down into two eras:
  - Elizabethan: 1590 - 1603
  - Jacobean: 1603 - 1613
- Actor’s copies, quarto (book size), folio (original editions)
Shakespeare Refresher, Part 1

- Meant to be read out loud!
Shakespeare Refresher, Part 2

- Iambic Pentameter (unstress, stress)

  “To be or not to be, that is the question”

- Trochaic Rhythm
  (stress, unstress)

  "Double, double, toil and trouble;/ Fire burn and caldron bubble"
Shakespeare Refresher, Part 3

- Verse vs. Prose
Macbeth: Origins, Part 1 (History)

- First performed in 1605 - 1606

- Written, and performed, in mind of King James VI and I, the Scottish King who took the English throne

- Descendant of Banquo, produced the book *Daemonologie*
Macbeth: Origins, Part 2 (Setting)

- Set in 11th Century Scotland, based on the Holinshed’s Chronicles
- Feudalism
- Shakespeare’s concept of ‘The Other’
The play *Macbeth* is designated as a tragedy, a play in which a central character who is noble or admirable faces a disastrous downfall.
The Scottish Play - A Superstition?

Never say the name Macbeth in a theatre!
Characters Crash Course, Part 1

Macbeth: Scottish general ambitious enough to commit regicide to become king

Lady Macbeth: His wife; ambitious; later remorseful

Banquo: General, murdered by hired killers

Fleance: Banquo's son

Duncan: King of Scotland

Malcolm: Eldest son of Duncan, Prince of Cumberland

Donalbain: Youngest son of Duncan
Macduff: General, dedicated to the good of Scotland

Ross: Cousin to Macduff

Lennox: Nobleman, loyal to Duncan

Seyton: Lieutenant to Macbeth

Siward: English Earl, supporter of Malcolm

Young Siward: Bravely faces Macbeth though he is killed in battle

Three Witches: Predict Macbeth's ambitions will soon come true; later predict his downfall
Themes in Macbeth (and other course texts)

1) Things are not what they seem

2) Blind ambition

3) Power corrupts

• Which of these relate to The Book Thief?
Learning Logs

Your first assignment for the semester. These are designed to help you make your own notes for the play which will help you to complete your other assignments.