



# Macbeth The Language of Power

In Shakespeare's time, like today, there were countless words used to describe the nature of power in society. In *Macbeth*, Shakespeare uses many terms related to power and corruption.

Categorize each word from *Macbeth* in the appropriate column in the chart. When you are done, exchange your chart with a partner. Discuss any differing answers and revise your chart if necessary.

abhorred	eminence	mettle	tyrant
anointed	harbinger	minion	usurper
contriver	judicious	resolute	valor
cowed	malevolence	treason	vanquish

Weakness and Servitude	Strength and Courage	Manipulation and Evil

## Answer Key

Weakness and Servitude	Strength and Courage	Manipulation and Evil
cowed	anointed	abhorred
harbinger	eminence	contriver
minion	judicious	malevolence
treason	mettle	tyrant
	resolute	usurper
	valor	
	vanquish	

RL-11-12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (Include Shakespeare as well as other authors.)

L.11-12.5 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.