

## Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare

### Richard III – Themes – Fate transcript

Fate is the idea that the future is already decided.

If the future's already planned out,  
could we have a sneaky peek at those future plans?

In this play some characters seem to be able  
to have a sneaky peek in their dreams.

Clarence has a dream in which  
he's pushed into the sea by his brother, Richard.

It certainly spooks him. But he finds it hard to believe  
that his brother would want to kill him,  
so he ignores his dream.

And that's fair enough.  
I had a dream about being chased by fish fingers.  
You'd hardly expect me to pay attention to that.

But Clarence's dream predicts the future.  
He gets murdered. And dumped into a watery grave.

If he did pay attention, would it have changed anything?  
What about curses?

Do you think a curse can change someone's future?

Queen Margaret and the Duchess of York both curse Richard.

Do you think the curse worked? I mean, what if your mum told  
you on the day of your driving test that you would fail,  
how do you think you'd do?

Shakespeare gives us a villain who ignores every rule,  
taboo and law there is.

But he hints that there's a supernatural law  
that can't be cheated.

Some people really can't avoid their fate.