

## Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare Macbeth – Themes – Appearance and reality transcript

### VOICEOVER

Shakespeare was fascinated in the difference between how things appear and what's really going on.

In this play we see Macbeth and his wife,  
pretend to be loyal subjects of Duncan,  
...so that they can get away with his murder.

The Witches appear to promise Macbeth great things.

In reality, they're telling him he's doomed.

Macbeth sees some odd things,  
which may just be his imagination.  
Imagination or not, that's still scary.

For example, on his way to kill Duncan,  
Macbeth sees a dagger floating before him.

He's not sure himself if what's happening is really happening.

But for all the strange things Macbeth sees,  
reality catches up with him, hidden within an attack  
he dismissed as silly witch talk!

What appeared to be nonsense was actually inescapable reality.  
Macbeth still might have the last laugh. Look.

He's got a bad dose of the squirrels.

That's worse than the measles.