**Task 1:**

Using the assessment objectives, question and the following extract – assess how well the model paragraph hits the assessment objectives.

**Assessment objectives for English Literature**

* AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:
  + maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
  + use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.
* AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
* AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
* AO4: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

**CAPTAIN**

Doubtful it stood,

As two spent swimmers that do cling together

And choke their art. The merciless Macdonald –

Worthy to be a rebel, for to that

The multiplying villainies of nature

Do swarm upon him – from the Western Isles

Of kerns and galloglasses is supplied,

And Fortune on his damnèd quarrel smiling,

Showed like a rebel’s whore. But all’s too weak,

For brave Macbeth – well he deserves that name –

Disdaining Fortune, with his brandished steel,

Which smoked with bloody execution,

Like Valour’s minion carved out his passage

Till he faced the slave,

Which ne’er shook hands, nor bade farewell to him,

Till he unseamed him from the nave to th’chaps

And fixed his head upon our battlements.

**Starting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a violent character.**

The eponymous play ‘Macbeth’ by William Shakespeare presents the main character as a violent man who believes being aggressive will help him achieve all his goals. Although men were expected to be strong warriors in the Jacobean era, there were rules and codes to abide by, so as not to be seen as uncivilised.

At the start of the play, although Macbeth is lauded for his prowess in battle, his style of fighting was still violent and brutal. The description from the Captain of Macbeth that he “brandished steel” and “smoked with bloody execution” those that he was fighting. Usually “executions” are carried out after a trial to prove you deserve to be executed, yet Macbeth was above that as he was given free rein by the King. The use of the word “bloody” is foreshadowing of the various violent deeds Macbeth will take part in throughout the play. This makes the reader feel cautious of Macbeth and that he cannot be trusted.

**Task 2:**

Write your own paragraph, for the extract given.