

Name:
Class/Period:
Mr. Martin--American Literature

***The Crucible* Study Guide**

Why are we doing this?: This resource will help all students to read, comprehend, analyze, and prepare for assessments on *The Crucible*. It will also help to propel discussion and activities in class.

Objective: Students will:

- Show comprehension and analysis of text through composition and use of evidence.
- Identify, define, and analyze theme, characterization, setting, and plot of *The Crucible*.
- Synthesize literary text with information from non-fiction resources through composition.

Directions: As you read *The Crucible*, answer each question in complete sentences on lined paper or typed. Make sure to answer all parts to questions with detail. Each act will be checked at announced (in class and on PowerSchool) as a **Homework/Classwork** grade (Scored 1-5 for completion). At the completion of our unit on *The Crucible*, the entire study guide will be collected and scored based on accuracy and quality of response as a **Quiz** grade (see rubrics).

***The Crucible* Study Guide Final Rubric**

A (90-100)	B (80-90)	C (70-80)	D (60-70)	F (<60)
All responses complete with accuracy using evidence from the text and from other resources. Student goes above and beyond standards.	80-90% of responses are complete with accuracy. Some use evidence from the text and from outside sources. Student meets standard.	70-80% of responses are complete with accuracy. Some use evidence from the text and/or from outside sources. Student is approaching standard.	60-70% of responses are complete with accuracy. Rarely use evidence from the text and/or from outside sources. Student is working towards the standard.	Under 60% of responses are complete with accuracy. Does not use evidence from the text and from outside sources. Student has not met or made progress towards standard.

Act One:

1.) The play begins with the following: "So now they and their church found it necessary to deny any other sect its freedom, lest their New Jerusalem be defiled and corrupted by wrong and deceitful ideas." What does "New Jerusalem" mean in this statement? What is the irony in that statement?

2.) Why does Rev. Parris call for a doctor? What does the doctor report back? Why is this of concern to the people in the Puritan times? Use examples from your background research.

3.) Write brief character sketches (physical, mental, emotional qualities) of the following characters: Tituba, Abigail, Betty.

4.) What does Rev. Parris question Abigail about? How does she respond? How SHOULD she have responded?

5.) What function does Rebecca Nurse have in the play so far? Explain her actions and the reactions in the plot.

6.) What are John Proctor's feelings about Reverend Parris? Why does he feel this way? Do you agree with John Proctor's feelings? Explain why.

7.) Why is Reverend Hale in Salem? With evidence from the act, explain whether he deserves to be there.

8.) Explain the scene that Parris sees in the woods. Why is this so concerning for the Puritan people? Use evidence from the story and from your research.

9.) Why does Abigail say she was dismissed by the Proctors'? What actually happened? Why would Abigail want to lie (which is a sin) about this?

10.) Hale says, "They [the books] must be [heavy]; they are weighted with authority." What is the significance of this remark? What does this show about Hale's personality traits?

11.) What signs show that Betty is bewitched? Do you think that this evidence is enough to show this diagnosis? Why?

12.) Parris says, "Oh, Abigail, what proper payment for my charity! Now I am undone!" What does that mean? Is Parris right or wrong by saying this? Why?

13.) Why does Abigail "admit" that Tituba and Ruth were conjuring spirits? Why is Abigail afraid the others will confess what they were doing in the woods? How does Abigail treat the other girls? How does she treat her uncle?

14.) Create a list of characters that you have met so far in *The Crucible*. Keep a running list of their events in the text, their roles, and their physical, mental, and emotional characteristics.

Writing Prompt: Choose a character from Act One. What is your character's true nature? Is your character brave or cowardly? Support your thesis with examples from the play.

Act II

1.) Where does Elizabeth want John to go, and what does she want him to do there?

2.) What is John's response to her prodding? Did he answer in the correct way? Why?

3.) What gift did Mary give Elizabeth? What is the significance of this?

4.) What was the "evidence" against Sarah Good? Is this sufficient evidence to convict a witch? Why/why not?

5.) Why doesn't Proctor want Mary to go back to court? Use examples from the play.

6.) Why does Elizabeth think Abigail wants to kill her? If you are Abigail, do you want this information to get out about you? Why?

7.) Why did Hale come to Proctor's house?

8.) What things are "suspicious" about Proctor and his family?

9.) Hale asks Elizabeth if she believes in witches. What is her reply?

10.) On what charge(s) was Rebecca Nurse arrested? What was the evidence against her?

11.) Why does Cheever come to the Proctor house?

12.) Explain the significance of the needle in the "poppet."

13.) What will happen to Proctor if he tries to discredit Abby?

14.) Why doesn't Mary want to testify about the doll?

Act III:

1.) Why do Giles and Francis want to talk to Danforth?

2.) What is Parris's argument against Proctor?

3.) What does Mary tell Danforth?

4.) When Danforth hears that Elizabeth is pregnant, what does he allow?

5.) What paper did ninety-one people sign?

6.) ". . . a person is either with this court or he must be counted against it, there be no road between." Explain the importance of Danforth's statement.

7.) What quote did Proctor use to help Mary remain brave?

8.) Of what does Giles accuse Putnam?

9.) What is Hale's problem as Proctor and his friends present evidence to Danforth?

10.) Hawthorne thinks of a test for Mary. What is it? Can she do it? Why or why not?

11.) Proctor calls Abigail a whore, and he confesses his lechery. Danforth tests Proctor's statement by calling for Elizabeth and asking her why Abigail was dismissed. What does Elizabeth say? Why?

12.) What do the girls do to Mary? What is her response?

13.) What happens to Proctor?

14.) What does Hale do?

Act IV:

1.) What explanation does Cheever give for Parris' "mad look"?

2.) What did Abigail do?

3.) Parris says, "You cannot hang this sort. There is danger for me." What "sort" does he mean, and what is the danger to him?

4.) Explain Danforth's reason that a pardon would not be just.

5.) Why has Hale come back to Salem?

6.) What does Hale want Elizabeth to do?

7.) What happened to Giles?

8.) Proctor says, "My honesty is broke, Elizabeth, I am no good man." Explain.

9.) What "confession" did Elizabeth make to John?

10.) What did Proctor do after he signed the confession? Why?

11.) "I have given you my soul; leave me my name!" Explain.

12.) "He have his goodness now. God forbid I take it from him!" What does Elizabeth mean?

Writing Prompt: The film chooses to show the hanging of Proctor. Is this a good or a bad decision by the director? Respond in a 1-2 paragraph response.