

Study Guide for *The Crucible* Test

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the overall theme of *The Crucible*?
2. How do we see examples of verbal irony used throughout the play?
3. What kind of government does Salem have in *The Crucible*?
4. What kind of life do the children in the Puritan society have?
5. What is Parris' position in Salem?
6. Before the play begins, what did Parris catch his daughter and other girls doing?
7. Why did Elizabeth Proctor fire Abigail?
8. As the play opens, what person has Parris asked to come to Salem?
9. What seems to motivate Abigail's actions in Act 1?
10. What is John Proctor's chief complaint against Parris' sermons?
11. What does Mrs. Putnam blame on witchcraft that has touched her own life?
12. Who is the first person Abigail claims practiced witchcraft?
13. In Act 2, what does Mary Warren give to Elizabeth Proctor when she returns from the trial?
14. What news does Mary Warren bring from Salem?
15. What allusions does Miller use in Act 2?
16. Which commandment does John Proctor forget when Reverend Hale quizzes him?
17. When Hale arrives to the Proctor's home, what can we predict about his future actions from his behavior?
18. Ezekiel Cheever and Herrick, the marshal, come to the Proctor's home to arrest whom?
19. John convinces Mary Warren to testify about what?
20. Who is in charge of the court?
21. Why will Elizabeth not be hanged if she is found guilty?
22. What is Giles Corey charged with prior to his arrested?
23. When Mary Warren testifies against them, what do Abigail and her troop of girls do?
24. What does John Proctor do in a desperate attempt to prove outwit Abigail's plans?
25. Who is brought in to confirm what John Proctor says is true?
26. What does Elizabeth do when called upon to testify?
27. What does the court do with John Proctor?
28. Why are cows wandering loose on the roads and crops rotting in the fields?
29. Why won't Danforth postpone the hangings?
30. When John Proctor is facing death, what does Hale urge him to do?
31. Why does Proctor retract his confession?
32. What does Abigail do at the end of the play?
33. What ultimately happens to John Proctor?

Part 2: Quotation Analysis-From Act IV, identify who said the quote and how and why it is significant (not a summary of the quote). What does it tell us about the character who said the line? What does it suggest about the character the line is spoken to? How does it illustrate a theme? See worksheet.

Part 3: Motif or Symbol: PICK ONE of the following motifs/symbols and explain in a five-sentence paragraph that has clear and distinct topic sentence.

1. What common thread could run through the motifs of "witch," "red," and "terrorist"?
2. Why is the poppet so significant?

Part 4: Constructed responses: Respond to the following questions and explain in a body paragraph-approximately five-sentences with a clear distinct topic sentence, evidence from the text, supporting analysis, and concluding sentence.

1. Tituba is one of the first people to be "accused" of witchcraft in the play. What is it that makes the confession so unsettling for modern audiences?
2. The Salem witch trials is a perfect example of what happens to a society when hysteria takes over. Explain **how** this hysteria started in Salem and **why** it continues to its tragic end.
3. What does it mean when Elizabeth says, "John has his goodness now" in the final scene of the play?
4. According to dictionary.com, a **crucible** is defined as "a container of metal material employed for heating substances to high temperatures" or "a severe searching test or trial." Based on these definitions, why might the title of the play, *The Crucible*, be a fitting title?