

## THE CRUCIBLE EXAM

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Answer three of the following prompts with at least two paragraphs each. Be sure to use specific examples from the story to back up your claims. You may use your notes or review a copy of the story.

1. **Theme:** How did hysteria and paranoia contribute to the events of the *The Crucible*? What message is the story sending about their destructiveness when they are allowed to run rampant in society?
2. **Characterization:** Which character is the most wicked? What makes him or her more wicked than the other characters?
3. **Analyze:** How does bias, faulty evidence, and superstition lead to injustice in the Salem Witch Trials as presented in *The Crucible*?
4. **Character Motivation:** In *The Crucible* how do the powerless young girls suddenly become powerful? What role does this play in their actions and those who are accused?
5. **Analyze:** Using examples from *The Crucible* to back up your claims, why is the concept of “innocent until proven guilty” vitally important to our judicial system?
6. **Characterization:** What does John Proctor’s decision not to confess to witchcraft tell us about his character? Do you agree with his decision? Explain.
7. **Author’s Purpose:** *Crucible* is a word that has multiple meanings. One meaning is “a pot that is used for melting down metals.” Another meaning is “a severe test or trial.” Keeping these meanings in mind, why do you think the author chose to title his play *The Crucible*?