# The Crucible Study Guide - Final Test

**Objective:** Think critically to make valid conclusions about <u>The Crucible</u>.

#### <u>Act 1</u>

- 1. A *crucible* is a severe test or trial. It is also a vessel in which materials are melted at high temperature to produce a more refined substance. What do you think a crucible might symbolize in this drama?
- 2. Describe Tituba's relationship with Mr. Parris and Betty Parris.
- 3. According to Abigail, who dismissed Abigail from the Proctor's service?
- 4. What is Anne Putnam's greatest grief?
- 5. Why is Reverend John Hale brought to Salem?
- 6. What is the setting of the play?
- 7. What did Tituba do in the forest?
- 8. What does John Proctor predict will happen to Abigail before she is twenty?
- 9. What form of government was established in Salem?
- 10. What human conditions motivated people to accuse others in the Salem witch trials?
- 11. What motivates Abigail to threaten Betty?

# <u>Act 2</u>

12. What is Mary Warren's relationship to the court?

13. When he comes in from planting, what suggestion does Proctor make to Elizabeth?

14. What does Elizabeth suspect of Proctor?

15. How might people who have been accused of being a witch save themselves from hanging?

16. Why has John Proctor been absent from church?

17. Why does Rev. Hale come to the Proctor's house?

- 18. Which commandment does John forget?
- 19. What is wrong with the doll that Mary made for Elizabeth?
- 20. Who is Ezekiel Cheever?
- 21. What does John demand of Mary Warren?

22. Why is Proctor reluctant to go to Salem and tell the court what Abigail has told him?

- 23. How has Mary Warren changed during this act?
- 24. What is the strongest evidence against Goody Osburn?
- 25. About what three things does Hale question the Proctors?
- 26. Who is the leader of the accusers in court?

#### <u>Act 3</u>

27.	Who accuses	John	of p	lowing	on	Sundays?

- 28. What is the deal that Danforth tries to make with John concerning Elizabeth?
- 29. Who is the richest man in the village?
- 30. What does Judge Hathorne ask Mary Warren to do in court that she cannot do?
- 31. Who does Abigail Williams threaten?
- 32. What does John tell the court about his wife?
- 33. How do the girls in the court room terrorize Mary Warren?
- 34. Why is Danforth suspicious of Proctor?
- 35. Why does Danforth ignore Giles' deposition?
- 36. How does Hale feel about the court proceedings at the end of Act 3?
- 37. Who has signed death warrants?
- 38. According to Giles, what motivates Putnam to accuse Jacobs of witchcraft?
- 39. Why does Mary change her mind about telling the truth?
- 40. Why does Parris constantly interrupt the court?
- 41. If Danforth finds out that the girls are lying, he may be blamed for what?
- 42. Why does Elizabeth lie about John's affair with Abigail?

### <u>Act 4</u>

- 43. What does Parris tell the court about Abigail and Mercy?
- 44. What does John Hale urge Elizabeth Proctor to do?
- 45. How does Giles Corey die?
- 46. Why hasn't John confessed to being a witch?
- 47. For what does Elizabeth blame herself?
- 48. What does Elizabeth mean when she says that she "kept a cold house"?
- 49. What does John want from Elizabeth?
- 50. What does John admit to in his confession?
- 51. What are Giles Corey's last words?
- 52. Describe John Proctor's and Elizabeth's relationship in the final scene.
- 53. Elizabeth asks John to forgive her for what?

54. What might Hale's description of the desolate countryside around Salem symbolize?

- 55. What does Hale try to do in Act Four?
- 56. Proctor's struggle in Act Four is mainly with whom?
- 57. Why does Danforth not want to postpone the hangings?
- 58. What does Elizabeth mean when she says that John has his "goodness now"?

- 59. Why does Elizabeth refuse to influence John's decision whether to confess?
- 60. What motivates John to tear up his confession?

## **Quotations**

Write a response for each of the following quotes from <u>The Crucible</u>, discussing its significance. Be sure to include who is speaking, to whom they are speaking, what events are occurring at the time the passage is spoken and why it is important. (Extra credit will be given if you can <u>identify</u> and <u>explain</u> the type of figurative language being used.)

- "And mark this. Let either of you breathe a word, or the edge of a word, about the other things, and I will come to you in the black of some terrible night and I will bring a pointy reckoning that will shudder you. And you know I can do it; I saw Indians smash my dear parents' heads on the pillow next to mine and I have seen some reddish work done at night, and I can make you wish you had never seen the sun go down!" (19).
- 2. "There is either obedience or the church will burn like Hell is burning!" (28).
- 3. "I want the light of God, I want the sweet love of Jesus! I danced for the Devil; I saw him, I wrote in his book; I go back to Jesus; I kiss His hand. I saw Sarah Good with the Devil! I saw Goody Osburn with the Devil! I saw Bridget Bishop with the Devil!" (45).
- 4. "You forget nothin' and forgive nothin'. Learn charity, woman...I have not moved from there to there without I think to please you, and still an everlasting funeral marches around your heart..." (52).
- 5. "I am a good woman I know it; and if you believe I may do only good work in this world, and yet be secretly bound to satan, then I must tell you sir, I do not believe it...If you think that I am [a witch], then I say there are none" (66).

- 6. "We are what we always were in Salem, but now the little crazy children are jangling the keys of the kingdom, and common vengeance writes the law" (73).
- 7. "You must understand, sir, that a person is either with this court or he must be counted against it, there be no road between. This is a sharp time, now, a precise time—we live no longer in the dusky afternoon when evil mixed itself with good and befuddled the world. Now, by God's grace, the shining sun is up, and them that fear not light will surely praise it" (87).
- 8. "Let you not mistake your duty as I mistook my own. I came into this village like a bridegroom to his beloved, bearing gifts of high religion; the very crowns of holy law I brought, and what I touched with my bright confidence, it died; and where I turned the eye of great faith, blood flowed up...Life, woman, life is God's most precious gift; no principle, however glorious, may justify the taking of it...Will you plead with him? I cannot think he will listen to another" (122).
- 9. A man may think God sleeps, but God sees everything, I know it now. I beg you, sir, I beg you—see her what she is. . . . She thinks to dance with me on my wife's grave! And well she might, for I thought of her softly. God help me, I lusted, and there is a promise in such sweat. But it is a whore's vengeance..." (102).
- 10. "Because it is my name! Because I cannot have another in my life! Because I lie and sign myself to lies! Because I am not worth the dust on the feet of them that hang! How may I live without my name? I have given you my soul; leave me my name!" (133).