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# The crucible plot worksheet fill in the blanks answers

1. Key Stage 4 Literature " The Crucible" 2. " The Crucible" UNIT CONTENTS Introduction Slides 3 - 12 Act One Slides 13 - 34 Act Two Slides 35 - 55 Act Three Slides 56 - 79 Act Four Slides 80 - 89 Essay Questions Slides 90 - 93 3. " The Crucible" - Introduction CONTENTS Unit Introduction Slide 4 Author Information Slide 5 McCarthysim Slide 6 The Salem Witch-hunts Slide 7 Puritan Society Slide 8 The Puritan Moral Code Slide 9 The Title Slide 10 Studying a Play Slide 11 Extension Work Slide 12 4. Unit Introduction " The Crucible" - Introduction In this unit we will be looking at the play "The Crucible" written by Arthur Miller. The play is divided into four acts and for each act you will be completing a variety of activities to develop your understanding of the text. Before we start looking at the play itself, it is useful to explore some of the background of Arthur Miller, his work and its historical and social context. It is also necessary to understand the type of society in which the story of "The Crucible" takes place. 5. Author Information Name: Arthur Miller Dates: 1915 - Career: Miller was born in New York City. He studied at the University of Michigan, where he won awards for plays he had written. In the 1940s, two of his best known plays, "All My Sons" and "Death of a Salesman, enjoyed huge success." The Crucible" was first staged in 1953, at the time of the McCarthy witch-hunts. Miller himself was forced to appear in front of the powerful McCarthy committee. " The Crucible" - Introduction 6. McCarthysim After the Second World War, America became desperate to stop communism from spreading out of the USSR. A committee was set up to investigate people who seemed to threaten the country's safety. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Senator Joseph McCarthy was the chairman of the "House Un-American Activities Committee". This committee was created to hunt for communist sympathisers. Many of the people called to appear in front of the committee were writers and artists. Arthur Miller drew parallels between this committee and the witch-hunts that had taken place in Salem in 1692. " The Crucible" - Introduction 7. The Salem Witch-hunts " The Crucible" is set at the time of the Salem witch-hunts. These witch-hunts took place in America in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692. In his play, Miller uses the events of the time, and many of the people originally involved. The story started with some dabbling in witchcraft by a small group of girls. The people believed that these girls were possessed by the devil, although nowadays we would probably describe their ailments as psychosomatic. Things then run out of control until the jails were filled with people accused of witchcraft, and twenty people were hanged. " The Crucible" - Introduction 8. Puritan Society in order to understand the events of "The Crucible", it is important to look at exactly what the Puritans of Salem were like. The town of Salem was originally founded by the Pilgrim fathers. Puritans who had left England in order to practise their religion. The Puritans had very strict moral codes, and it is likely that these contributed to the girls' experimentation in the forest. On the next slide you will find examples of some of the rules that the Puritans followed. Think carefully about how these rules might have affected young girls like those found in "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Introduction 9. The Puritan Moral Code Plain clothes must be worn. Wigs, decoration and make up are not allowed. Swearing, gambling and drinking are forbidden, and will be punished. Sundays are a day of rest, with no sport or work allowed. Theatres and other types of entertainment are banned. " The Crucible" - Introduction 10. The Title At first glance, the title appears to have little connection with the play. It is only when you read the definition of the word crucible, that you see exactly why Miller chose to name his play in this way. " The Crucible" - Introduction Crucible - Vessel in which metals can be heated. With heating, any impurities are burnt away from the pure element. In Miller's play, the character of John Proctor is tested. Eventually he decides to sacrifice his life, rather than betray his beliefs. 11. Studying a Play Studying a play is very different from looking at a novel or a poem. Before you start to analyse "The Crucible" in detail, here are some points that you should remember. A play is written to be performed. When you read any play, you should remember this, and try to visualise the actors and the stage in your head. If possible, go to see a live performance of the play. The playwright will usually include stage directions, often written in italics, to give the director information about how to stage the play. The stage directions will also give the actors guidance about how to play their characters. In this case, Miller also includes a great deal of background information about his characters and their roles in the history of Salem. " The Crucible" - Introduction 12. Extension Work " The Crucible" - Introduction Complete the following tasks to develop your understanding of the background to "The Crucible": Find out more information about McCarthysim in America. Complete some background reading by looking at Miller's other well known plays, such as "All My Sons" and "Death of a Salesman". Find out some more information about Arthur Miller's life and work. Find out more about the history of Puritans in America. Activities 13. " The Crucible" - Act One CONTENTS Plot Summary Exercise Slides 14 - 16 Setting the Scene Slides 17 - 20 Puritan Costume Slides 21 - 22 The Characters Slide 23 Major: Parris, Abigail, Hale Slides 24 - 29 Minor: Rebecca, Tituba Slides 30 - 33 Extension Work Slide 34 14. Plot Summary Exercise Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Reverend Samuel \_\_\_\_\_ is praying at his daughter's bedside. The doctor suspects that the cause of her illness may be unnatural. \_\_\_\_\_ Williams tells him about rumours of \_\_\_\_\_ that are circulating in Salem. Parris challenges Abigail about finding her \_\_\_\_\_ in the woods. She tells him it was only a game. Thomas and Ruth \_\_\_\_\_ arrive. Their daughter Ruth is ill too. Parris Abigail witchcraft dancing Putnam " The Crucible" - Act One 15. Plot Summary Exercise Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Mrs Putnam talks of her seven \_\_\_\_\_ who died. She suspects they were murdered by a witch. Parris goes to talk to the townspeople. \_\_\_\_\_ and Abigail, left alone, try to wake \_\_\_\_\_ up. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ arrives, and Abigail warns her that she must not talk about what they did in the woods. Suddenly, Betty wakes up. Abigail hits her to make her be quiet. John \_\_\_\_\_ arrives and sends Mary home. Mercy leaves too, and Abigail and John are alone. children Mercy Betty Warren Proctor " The Crucible" - Act One 16. Plot Summary Exercise Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Abigail flirts with John and reminds him of their affair. He tells her it is over. Betty starts to \_\_\_\_\_ and the others rush back in. \_\_\_\_\_ quiets her down. Proctor and \_\_\_\_\_ quarrel. As he and Giles \_\_\_\_\_ leave, Putnam threatens Giles. Reverend John \_\_\_\_\_ arrives and discusses whether the children are possessed. When he begins to question \_\_\_\_\_ she accuses \_\_\_\_\_ . The act ends with Tituba and the girls 'opening themselves' to God. scream Rebecca Parris Corey Hale " The Crucible" - Act One Abigail Tituba 17. Setting the Scene Re-read the stage directions given before the play starts (p.1). Miller takes great care to 'set the scene' before the play opens. He gives detailed information about the stage furniture, and also about the 'look' of the room where the action takes place. He also tells the reader / director about the lighting that should be used. On the next slide you will find a picture taken from a production of "The Crucible". Try to identify all the different things that Miller describes. Is there anything missing from the stage? What lighting is being used? " The Crucible" - Act One 18. Setting the Scene " The Crucible" - Act One 19. Setting the Scene Now it's your turn to be the stage designers! On the next slide you will find a blank 'room' and a series of images showing the things that Miller describes. Drag and drop the images to create your own design of how you think the stage should look for Act One. " The Crucible" - Act One 20. " The Crucible" - Act Three Setting the Scene 21. Puritan Costume The Puritans wore very plain clothes, and a fact that reflects their society very clearly. As we have already seen, the Puritans followed a very strict moral code, and this extended to the way that they dressed. On the next slide you will find a picture of Abigail, taken from a production of the play. She is wearing clothes that a Puritan woman might typically have worn. Notice how the director of this production has used a very sharply contrasting black and white costume, whereas in reality the clothes would have become quite dirty and worn. Why do you think the director might have done this? What might the black and white colours symbolise? " The Crucible" - Act One 22. Puritan Costume " The Crucible" - Act One White bonnet, shawl and apron Demure posture, hair tied neatly back The black and white could symbolise the sharply defined moral code of the Puritans, and their rigid definition of good and evil. Plain black dress 23. The Characters We meet a great many characters in the first act, some of whom are very important to the story, others less so. Although it is obviously vital to study the major characters in great detail, some of the 'minor' people are crucial to the story as well. On the next slides you will find blank character studies for three of the 'major' and two of the 'minor' characters in this act. Complete the character studies for each person, then look at the answer slides to check what you have written. All the information you need to complete the character studies can be found in the text of Act One. In fact, it is interesting to note exactly how much detail Miller does give about his characters. If Miller does not specify a detail, write 'unknown'. " The Crucible" - Act One 24. " The Crucible" - Act One Parris Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 25. " The Crucible" - Act One Parris Full Name: Reverend Samuel Parris Age: Mid forties Occupation: Reverend (minister) for the town of Salem Relatives: Daughter, Betty Parris, \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ 26. " The Crucible" - Act One Abigail Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 27. " The Crucible" - Act One Abigail Full Name: Abigail Williams Age: Seventeen Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 28. " The Crucible" - Act One Hale Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 29. " The Crucible" - Act One Hale Full Name: Reverend John Hale Age: Nearly forty Occupation: Reverend (minister) in Beverly Relatives: Unknown Personality: He sees himself as an authority on the work of the devil. Has a love of intellectual pursuit and books. Essentially an outsider here, but one whose knowledge on religious matters is greatly respected by the people in Salem. 30. " The Crucible" - Act One Rebecca Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 31. " The Crucible" - Act One Rebecca Full Name: Rebecca Nurse Age: Seventy two Occupation: Land owner's wife Relatives: Husband, Francis Nurse; eleven children, twenty-six grandchildren Personality: Calm, gentle and loving, especially with children. Full of common sense. Fearful of the dangers of this society seeking "loose spirits". 32. " The Crucible" - Act One Tituba Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 33. " The Crucible" - Act One Tituba Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 34. Extension Work " The Crucible" - Act One 1. From your reading of Act One, what would seem to be the major themes of the play? 2. Should a director choose to add to the play, recreating the scene where the girls dance in the forest? If yes, how and why should this be done? 3. How could the stage set contribute to the sense of claustrophobia apparent in this first act? 4. What seems to you to be the high point of tension, or climax, of this act? How might you stage this to develop the tension? Questions 35. " The Crucible" - Act Two CONTENTS Plot Summary Exercise Slides 36 - 38 The Characters Slide 39 John, Elizabeth, Mary Warren Slides 40 - 45 John and Elizabeth Slides 46 - 50 Sub Text Slides 51 - 52 Dramatic Irony Slides 53 - 54 Extension Work Slide 55 36. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Two Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Act Two takes place in John Proctor's house. \_\_\_\_\_ days later, John has been planting on his farm. He talks with his wife, \_\_\_\_\_. There is tension between them. Elizabeth tells John about the court that has been set up in \_\_\_\_\_. She asks him to go and tell the court that the girls are lying. Mary Warren returns from town. She claims that \_\_\_\_\_ tried to kill her. John threatens to \_\_\_\_\_ her. She tells them that \_\_\_\_\_ is accused too. eight Elizabeth Salem Goody Osburn whip Elizabeth 37. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Two Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Mr \_\_\_\_\_ has been charged. Mr Hale questions the couple about their lack of attendance at church. He tests John on his \_\_\_\_\_, but Proctor cannot remember them all. John tells Hale that \_\_\_\_\_ is lying. Giles \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Nurse arrive. Both their wives have been arrested. Ezekiel Cheever and Marshal \_\_\_\_\_ appear and tell Elizabeth that Abigail has accused her. Hale Rebecca Nurse commandments Abigail Corey Francis Herrick 38. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Two Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Cheever asks them whether they have any \_\_\_\_\_ in the house. He sees Mary Warren's poppet. On checking it, he finds a \_\_\_\_\_ . He tells them that Abigail has been stabbed with one too. They question \_\_\_\_\_ about it. John tears up the \_\_\_\_\_ in fury. Elizabeth tells him she will go with them. They take her away. John tells Mary that she must tell the court the truth. Mary warns John that Abigail will charge him with \_\_\_\_\_ . Poppets needle Mary Warren warrant lecture 39. The Characters There are far fewer characters in the second act of the play, and the setting feels much more intimate, focussing as it does mainly on the relationship between John and Elizabeth. This is their home, and their children are asleep upstairs. Thus the sense of an unwarranted invasion is powerful when Cheever and Herrick come to question and arrest Elizabeth. Complete the character studies on John, Elizabeth and Mary Warren, checking what you have written against the answer slides. " The Crucible" - Act Two 40. " The Crucible" - Act Two Proctor Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 41. " The Crucible" - Act Two Proctor Full Name: John Proctor Age: Mid thirties Occupation: Farmer Relatives: Wife, Elizabeth; three sons Personality: Quick to anger, but kind and eager to please his wife. Judgemental, especially of himself and his adultery. Prone to lapses of judgement, but keen to do the right thing. Strong sense of right and wrong, he develops a great deal during the play. 42. " The Crucible" - Act Two Elizabeth Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 43. " The Crucible" - Act Two Full Name: Elizabeth Proctor Age: Unknown, probably early thirties Occupation: Mother, Farmer's wife Relatives: Husband, John Proctor; three sons Personality: Calm and gentle, but with a fierce inner strength. Loyal to her husband, but finds it hard to forgive his adultery. Apprehensive about discussing Salem's problems with John, but has the strength of character to do so. Elizabeth 44. " The Crucible" - Act Two Mary Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Relatives: \_\_\_\_\_ Personality: \_\_\_\_\_ 45. " The Crucible" - Act Two Mary Full Name: Mary Warren Age: Seventeen Occupation: The Proctors' Serving Girl Relatives: Unknown Personality: Naive and lacking in self confidence. Frightened of Abigail, but her character grows throughout the play. Eventually she tries to challenge her, but fails.

Highly emotional and easily led by others. 46. John and Elizabeth The relationship between the Proctors, and the way that they feel, fluctuates strongly during this act. Look at the points from Act Two on the next two slides. Decide which of the words best describes their feelings at that moment. Drag the words alongside the relevant point. " The Crucible" - Act Two Tender Horrified Angry Amazed Fearful Nervous Painful Shocked Furious Resigned Determined 47. The opening section, where the Proctors discuss the farm. " The Crucible" - Act Two Elizabeth tells John what is going on in town. Elizabeth finds out that John has been alone with Abigail. Mary enters and they question her about the court. Elizabeth discovers that her name is mentioned in court. Tender Horrified Angry Amazed Fearful Nervous Painful Shocked Furious Resigned Determined 49. The opening section, where the Proctors discuss the farm. " The Crucible" - Act Two Elizabeth tells John what is going on in town. Elizabeth finds out that John has been alone with Abigail. Mary enters and they question her about the court. Elizabeth discovers that her name is mentioned in court. Tender Horrified Angry Amazed Fearful Answers: 50. " The Crucible" - Act Two Hale appears, as though from thin air. John cannot remember the commandment about adultery. Cheever and Herrick arrive to question Elizabeth. Cheever accuses Elizabeth, and John snatches the warrant. Elizabeth agrees to go with Cheever. John will clear his wife's name, whatever it takes. Tender Horrified Angry Amazed Fearful Nervous Painful Shocked Furious Resigned Determined 49. The opening section, where the Proctors discuss the farm. " The Crucible" - Act Two Elizabeth tells John what is going on in town. Elizabeth finds out that John has been alone with Abigail. Mary enters and they question her about the court. Elizabeth discovers that her name is mentioned in court. Tender Horrified Angry Amazed Fearful Answers: 50. " The Crucible" - Act Two Hale appears, as though from thin air. John cannot remember the commandment about adultery. Cheever and Herrick arrive to question Elizabeth. Cheever accuses Elizabeth, and John snatches the warrant. Elizabeth agrees to go with Cheever. John will clear his wife's name, whatever it takes. Answers: Nervous Painful Shocked Furious Resigned Determined 51. Sub Text Sub text describes the technique whereby a playwright gives characters (usually in a play) a hidden agenda, one that is not immediately apparent from what they say. Sub text means literally what is 'below' the text, the unspoken things that may be communicated through body language, or tone of voice, or facial expression. Sub text will affect the way a character behaves, especially if he or she wants their secret to remain hidden. Sub text may be hidden from the other characters and from the audience. If the audience knows the sub text, this is called dramatic irony (see the section on this technique). " The Crucible" - Act Two 52. Sub Text Answer the questions below to develop your understanding of sub text in connection with "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Act Two What is Elizabeth's sub text in this act? Why is she so scared about bringing her secret fears to the surface? What is John's sub text? What has John done in Act One that Elizabeth only finds out about during this act? How does John's sub text affect his mood? Questions 53. Dramatic Irony Dramatic irony describes the technique whereby the audience knows something that the characters (or most of them) do not. Dramatic irony increases the tension for the audience, because we are waiting to find out what will happen. Our foreknowledge involves us intensely in the story. In Act Two of "The Crucible", dramatic irony is created. We (the audience) know that John has seen Abigail alone. We therefore feel tense, waiting for Elizabeth to find out. In addition, the audience has seen Abigail and the girls discussing what has happened. Only we have seen this. " The Crucible" - Act Two 54. Dramatic Irony Answer the questions below to develop your understanding of dramatic irony in connection with "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Act Two How does the dramatic irony of his meeting with Abigail affect John's mood early on in Act Two? How does hearing the girls' discussion in Act One affect the audience? Particularly, the knowledge that Abby "drank a charm to kill John Proctor's wife"? Can you find another example of dramatic irony / sub text in this scene? Look at Hale's interview of the Proctors. Questions 55. Extension Work " The Crucible" - Act Two 1. The setting for Act Two is very intimate - the private home of the Proctors. What is the impact of the arrival of Cheever and Herrick on the atmosphere created? 2. How could a director use lighting to intensify the intimacy and fear apparent in this scene? 3. Which of the themes that you identified in Act One are developed more fully in this act? 4. What special effects might you add to the ending of this scene to develop the sense of approaching doom? Questions 56. " The Crucible" - Act Three CONTENTS Plot Summary Exercise Slides 57 - 58 Themes in "The Crucible" Slide 59 Witchcraft Slides 60 - 64 Revenge Slides 65 - 68 Paranoia Slide 69 Love : John and Elizabeth Slide 70 Love : Giles / Francis & Rebecca Slide 71 Power Slide 72 Status Slides 73 - 78 Extension Work Slide 79 57. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Three Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Act Three takes place in the anteroom of the \_\_\_\_\_ . We can hear chaos in the court. \_\_\_\_\_ is dragged out. Judge \_\_\_\_\_ comes out and questions \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. John Proctor brings Mary in. Danforth questions her and she tells him "I w \_\_\_\_\_ ". Danforth tells John that his wife is \_\_\_\_\_ . John shows Danforth a \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ declares the people's good opinion of the women who have been arrested. Danforth says that these people must be summoned to the court. General Court Giles Danforth Giles Francis pretence pregnant deposition 58. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Three Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: Giles claims that Thomas \_\_\_\_\_ prompted his daughter to cry witchcraft. Proctor gives Danforth Mary's deposition. They bring the girls out and Mary is questioned. The girls claim to feel Mary's \_\_\_\_\_. In fury, Proctor admits to committing adultery with \_\_\_\_\_. Abigail is questioned, and they bring \_\_\_\_\_ in to ask her too. She lies to save John's name. Now Abigail claims to see a \_\_\_\_\_ . In parallel, Mary accuses John of being the devil's man. He is arrested. \_\_\_\_\_ quits the court. Putnam spirit Abigail Elizabeth yellow bird Hale 59. Themes in "The Crucible" The themes that run through the play are powerful, important ones. Their impact is strengthened by the historical content of the story, both the original events in Salem, and the terror context of the McCarthy "witch hunts". Because plays create their impact through characters, their themes will tend to be driven by the people within them. The themes will become apparent in the ways that the characters behave, and also the changes within these people during the course of the story. The following slides deal with some of the different themes in "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Act Three 60. Witchcraft There is no suggestion in the play that Miller believes in witchcraft. In fact, he seems to feel that religion is as dangerous, and full of superstition, as the so-called 'black arts'. For more background on Arthur Miller's opinions and thoughts, look very carefully at the detailed background that he intersperses with the play during Act One. The Puritans fear the unknown, and try to define it, to take some of their terror away. By saying that the girls' behaviour is influenced by the devil, this society can avoid taking responsibility for what is happening. Look at the way Hale describes his "art" in Act One, "with a tasty love of intellectual pursuit". Clearly, these people take witchcraft very seriously indeed. " The Crucible" - Act Three 61. Witchcraft Answer the questions below to develop your understanding of witchcraft as a theme in "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Act Three 1. Why does Tituba quickly become the main target for accusations of witchcraft? Try to think of more than one reason. 2. Why might it be important that the girls have been found dancing in the forest? Again, think of several reasons. 3. Which character has the courage to denounce witchcraft outright? Why might this be ironic? Questions 62. " The Crucible" - Act Three Witchcraft Question Why does Tituba quickly become the main target for accusations of witchcraft? Try to think of more than one reason. Answer She is a slave, with the lowest status in this society, and is therefore an easy scapegoat. The girls are scared of being punished for what they have done and therefore need her to be a scapegoat. She comes from Barbados, where 'black magic' would have formed part of the 'religion'. 63. " The Crucible" - Act Three Witchcraft Question Why might it be important that the girls have been found dancing in the forest? Again, think of several reasons. Answer The forest was still a 'wild' place at this time, where the girls could dance in secret, away from the confines of Puritan society. The wilderness had not yet been tamed, and the people were fearful of it, and of what could happen there. Threats, such as the native American Indians, appeared out of the forest. 64. " The Crucible" - Act Three Witchcraft Question Which character has the courage to denounce witchcraft outright? Why might this be ironic? Answer Elizabeth does not believe in witchcraft. In Act Two she tells Hale, "I cannot believe it." She also says "I cannot think the Devil may own a woman's soul, when she keeps an upright way, as I have." This is ironic, because Elizabeth is about to be accused of witchcraft and arrested for it. 65. Revenge Several characters in the play use the accusations of witchcraft to exact revenge. Their increased status as part of the witch-hunt allows them to gain revenge for the ways they feel they have been wronged. " The Crucible" - Act Three For each of the characters below, decide whom they want revenge against and what they want revenge for: Ann Putnam Thomas Putnam Abigail Williams Activity 66. Revenge " The Crucible" - Act Three Ann Putnam I want revenge against this society, and against Rebecca Nurse in particular. I'll not have her judging me any more. Seven dead in childbirth! How can that be natural? It must be the Devil's work. 67. Revenge " The Crucible" - Act Three Thomas Putnam I want revenge against this society, because they don't appreciate and honour me properly. My candidate turned down for Minister? In Salem, my father leaving most of his money to my stepbrother. It's not fair! 68. Revenge " The Crucible" - Act Three Abigail Williams I want revenge against Elizabeth Proctor. She's a sickly wife for John. He needs me, not her! How dare she dismiss me and ruin my reputation? I'll show her whom John really loves. 69. Paranoia The paranoia of this repressed, isolated society is an important factor in the witch-hunts. In the huge open spaces of America, the people were fearful of the dangers that lurked all around. Answer the questions to develop your understanding of the theme of paranoia in "The Crucible". " The Crucible" - Act Three 1. How might you stage the play to increase the sense of paranoia and claustrophobia. 2. How does the theme of paranoia link to McCarthysim? 3. What different factors contribute to the sense of paranoia in the play? Questions 70. Love : John and Elizabeth " The Crucible" - Act Three At the heart of the play is the love between John and Elizabeth Proctor. Their love is tested to the limits during the story. Notice how John and Elizabeth are fully rounded characters, whereas Abigail is kept fairly one dimensional. Notice too how Abigail's 'love' for John is based on her adolescent passions, rather than being the 'true' love that John and his wife share. At the end of the play, Elizabeth proves how deeply her love for John runs. She knows that he cannot live without his conscience and honour. She 'allows' him to die, despite the fact that she is carrying his unborn child. 71. Love : Giles / Francis and Rebecca " The Crucible" - Act Three It is also clear that both the old men, Giles Corey and Francis Nurse, love their wives deeply. There is a love that has only strengthened with the length of their marriages, and their journeys into old age together. Rebecca, too, shows a deep capacity for love, through the course of the play. In Act Three, Giles is deeply ashamed that his wife has been arrested, simply because he mentioned how much she loved books. He weeps in front of the court, because his love for her is so deep. In Act Four, Giles proves the depth of his love for his wife and family, by dying with tremendous courage (see slide on Courage in the next section). 72. Power In this early American society, the ownership of land was of huge importance. The power struggles over land play a central part in the plot against Proctor and Giles. This is apparent early on in the play, when Giles and Thomas Putnam nearly come to blows. Danforth and Hathorne are both powerful men, whose reputations are enhanced by their involvement in the trials. Women in this society have relatively little power. Look at the way even Elizabeth defers to her husband. By leading the accusations of witchcraft, Abigail gains attention and consequently power because her claims are believed. In addition, she hopes to gain greater power over John, by 'disposing' of Elizabeth. " The Crucible" - Act Three 73. Status Status means the amount of power a person or character has within a society or within a certain situation. Status can be earned or gained in various ways. Some people naturally have a high status, perhaps because of their role in life. For instance, the majority of people would defer to the Queen or the Prime Minister and view them as being of very high status. Similarly, in our society we think of famous people as being of high status and would treat them deferentially if we met them. On the next slide you will find a variety of ways that status is gained, both in society generally and in "The Crucible" specifically. " The Crucible" - Act Three 74. Status Gender: In this society, men have a great deal more status than women. Wealth: The more money a man has, the more status he gains. Look at what John Proctor says about Parris's "golden candlesticks". Occupation: Being a minister in this deeply religious society confers a great deal of status. Look at the way Hale is treated when he first arrives. Similarly, the judges, Danforth and Hathorne, are high status characters, whose authority would not normally be questioned. Age: The young girls have a very low status in this society, and by becoming accusers, they increase their status and consequently their power. " The Crucible" - Act Three 75. Status " The Crucible" - Act Three Look at the characters named on the next slides. For each character, complete the following tasks: Drag and drop the 'status indicator' to show how high or low you feel their status level to be in Act Three. Give specific details of what creates their high or low status. Remember, status can be gained by: Gender Wealth Occupation Age Activity 76. Thomas Putnam Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_

" The Crucible" - Act Three 77. Reverend Parris Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_  
" The Crucible" - Act Three 78. John Proctor Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_  
" The Crucible" - Act Three 79. Abigail Williams Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_  
" The Crucible" - Act Three 80. Mary Warren Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_  
" The Crucible" - Act Three 81. Judge Danforth Status created by: \_\_\_\_\_

what advice might you give the actor playing Danforth, about how to speak, move and stand? 2. What sort of person is Ezekiel Cheever? Look at the way he treats John, when Danforth is questioning him about his purpose for coming to the court. 3. Why does Elizabeth lie about her reason for dismissing Abigail? 4. As a director, how might you stage the 'yellow bird'? Should the yellow bird be literal or not? Questions 83. " The Crucible" - Act Four CONTENTS Plot Summary Exercise Slides 81 - 82 Characters who Change Slide 83 Themes in "The Crucible" Slide 84 Courage Slide 85 Courage : The Women Slide 86 Courage : The Men Slide 87 The Structure of the Play Slide 88 Extension Work Slide 89 84. Plot Summary Exercise " The Crucible" - Act Four Complete the plot summary by filling in the blanks: In the jail, \_\_\_\_\_ and Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ are removed from their cell as Danforth and \_\_\_\_\_ arrive. They discuss how \_\_\_\_\_ and Hale have been praying with the prisoners. 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