English III Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Crucible

Study Guide Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Character Worksheet: *The Crucible*

As you read the play, use this worksheet to help you keep track of the characters. Write down their key personality traits, the quotes that reveal those traits, and their source of motivation.

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| **Character** | **Traits** | **Quotes** | **Motivations** |
| Reverend Parris |  |  |  |
| Tituba |  |  |  |
| Abigail Williams |  |  |  |
| John Proctor |  |  |  |
| Elizabeth Proctor |  |  |  |
| Reverend Hale |  |  |  |
| Thomas Putnam |  |  |  |
| Rebecca Nurse |  |  |  |
| Francis Nurse |  |  |  |
| Giles Corey |  |  |  |
| Mary Warren |  |  |  |

**Answer the following:**

1. What is the setting of The Crucible?
2. Why is Paris worried about his daughter and what took place in the woods?
3. Why does Tituba begin calling out women as witches?
4. How would you describe the relationship between John and Elizabeth Proctor? How does it change from Act II to Act IV?
5. How does Reverend Hale change over the course of the play?
6. Which commandment does Proctor forget and why?
7. Explain the purpose of Miller’s allusions to the parting of the Red Sea, Pontius Pilate, and the Devil’s fall from heaven.
8. Red Sea (about Abigail) page 1293
9. Pontius Pilate (about Rev. Hale) page 1309
10. Devil’s fall from heaven (about Rebecca Nurse) page 1304
11. What evidence do Proctor, Corey, and Nurse bring to prove their wives’ innocence?
12. What does Cheever add to the evidence presented in Act III? Why?
13. In Act III, when Danforth brings in Elizabeth to confirm or deny John’s affair with Abigail, why is her answer to him ironic?
14. Why does Mary Warren rejoin Abigail and the other girls?
15. What’s happening in Andover at the beginning of Act IV?
16. What is Danforth’s primary motivation throughout the play?
17. Why is it important to the court for Rebecca Nurse and John Proctor to confess?
18. What does Crucible mean? How does the title relate to the theme of the play?
19. Miller refers to the Puritans as possessing “parochial snobbery.” What does that mean?
20. In simplest terms, what does John Proctor refuse to do? That is, where does he draw the line?
21. How is *The Crucible* an allegory to McCarthyism? What other event in history also has similar events/patterns?

**Identify the speaker:**

1. "There is a faction that is sworn to drive me from my pulpit."
2. "... I have laid seven babies unbaptized in the earth."
3. “I cannot sleep for dreamin'; I cannot dream but I wake and walk about the house as though I'd find you comin' through some door.”
4. “I will cut off my hand before I’ll reach for you again.”
5. “He say Mr. Parris must be kill! Mr. Parris no goodly man, Mr. Parris mean man and no gentle man, and he bid me rise out of my bed and cut your throat!”
6. “I want to open myself! . . . 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!”
7. “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!”
8. “I do not judge you. The magistrate sits in your heart that judges you.”
9. “They must be (heavy); they are weighted with authority.”
10. "I like it not that Mr. Parris should lay his hand upon my baby. I see no light of God in that man. I'll not conceal it."
11. "I'll tell you what's walking Salem - vengeance is walking Salem. 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! This warrant's vengeance! I'll not give my wife to vengeance!"
12. “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.”
13. “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, and you must see it….”
14. “I say God is dead.”
15. "It is mistaken law that leads you to sacrifice. Life, woman, life is God's most precious gift; no principle, however glorious, may justify the taking of it . . . it may well be God damns a liar less than he that throws his life away for pride."
16. "I cannot mount the gibbet like a saint. It is a fraud. I am not that man."
17. "I counted myself so poorly made, no honest love could come to me! . . . It were a cold house I kept."
18. "Damn the village! I confess to God, and God has seen my name on it."
19. “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!”
20. “I speak my own sins; I cannot judge another.  I have no tongue for it.”
21. "He have his goodness now. God forbid I take it from him."