

Essay Questions

1. Summarise Miller's preface to the play (p. 1-5) and show how the action of the play portrays this.
2. "Your justice would freeze beer." Consider the characters of Elizabeth and Proctor and/or their relationship in the light of this statement.
3. "The play is a study of human motivation." Consider how various characters exploit the situation in Salem.
4. "The play is a study of power and manipulation." Select any two or three characters and show how they illustrate the abuse of power.
5. According to Miller's play, what are the causes of prejudice?
6. What is the significance of the title: *The Crucible*
7. "I have given you my soul; leave me my name!" Do you consider John Proctor to be heroic?
8. "John Proctor is the tragic hero of *The Crucible*". How far would you agree with this statement
9. Discuss the change or lack of change undergone by the main characters.
10. Consider the relationship between John Proctor and Abigail Williams and how Arthur Miller presents it to an audience.