

The Crucible Webquest Background Research

Directions: You will be placed in a group and work together to research background information about *The Crucible*. Each group member is responsible for completing his or her own question sheet but you may divide the research tasks between group members. Once your group completes this process, you must make sure that each person has all the questions answered.

Question Set 1

The Salem Witchcraft Trials Background

Research suggestion:

<http://public.wsu.edu/~campbelld/amlit/witch.htm>

http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/salem/SAL_ACCT.HTM

1. When did the Salem witch trials take place?
2. How many people died?
3. Was this the first time people had been tried as witches? Explain a bit about the history.
4. Identify and describe their connection to the witch trials for the following people:
 - Sarah Goode:
 - Sarah Osborne:
 - Tibuta:
 - Samuel Parris:
5. How did people avoid execution?
6. Why did the land suffer along with the people?
7. When did the witch trials end?
8. Identify the following people and describe their connection to the witch trials:
 - Rebecca Nurse:
 - John Proctor:
 - Elizabeth Proctor:
 - Sir William Phips:
9. Summarize the procedures used in the Salem Trials.
10. Read and summarize “The Man of Iron”, a record of fate of Giles Corey.
<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/salem/gilescoreypage.HTM>
11. Explain why the hysteria finally ended.
12. The Cause of the Salem Witch Trials—identify at least three reasons for the outbreak in Salem.
<http://public.wsu.edu/~campbelld/amlit/witch.htm>

Question Set 2

Arthur Miller

http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/salem/SAL_CRU.HTM

1. Arthur Miller's birth:
2. Arthur Miller's death:
3. What other well-known play did he write?
4. What famous person was he married to (for a while) and what did she have to do to marry him?
5. What university did he attend? What degree did he receive there?
6. Why did he not have to serve in World War II?
7. When did *The Crucible* open on Broadway?
8. Before what committee did he have to appear in 1956?
9. In May 1957, of what was he found guilty?
10. What happened in August 1958?
11. What was the "Hollywood Ten"?

Question Set 3

Senator Joseph McCarthy and the Red Scare of the 1950s

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAmccarthy.htm>

1. Who was Joseph McCarthy and what was he looking for? Why?
2. Why were Americans afraid of Communists?
3. What was the House on Un-American Activities and what did it do?
4. What were the "Hollywood Ten" and "Hollywood Blacklist"?
5. Describe the victims of McCarthyism. (Summarize the section)
6. List three famous Americans who were targeted. Please identify what they were famous for.

Question Set 4

Witch hunts throughout History

Japanese Americans

<http://www.pbs.org/childofcamp/history/index.html>

1. What prompted FDR to issue Executive Order 9066?
2. Roughly how many Japanese Americans were incarcerated?
3. Describe the conditions of the camps.
4. What was the justification of Executive Order 9066?
5. What was the Civil Liberties Act of 1988?
6. What were the long-term health impacts on Japanese Americans?

Question Set 5

“Witch Hunts” throughout History

Rwandan Genocide

http://www.unitedhumanrights.org/genocide/genocide_in_rwanda.htm

1. Describe the ethnic breakdown in Rwanda in the 1990s.
2. How did Habyarimana and his government convince the people the Tutsi minority was to blame for Rwanda’s problems?
3. What was the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF)?
4. How did the violence start, and how many people were killed?
5. How did the civil war end?
6. Why did the international community fail to act?

Question Set 6

“Witch Hunts” throughout History

Recent target: The Muslim Faith, United States, present day

<http://www.cavalierdaily.com/2010/11/12/modern-day-witch-hunts/>

1. Why are Americans afraid of people who practice the Muslim faith?
2. How is this fear a threat to religious tolerance in this country?
3. Describe three recent examples of the persecution of Muslims in our country?
4. What is the rationale behind the opponents of the “Ground Zero Mosque” in New York City?
5. Identify two rights to religious freedom guaranteed in our constitution by the First Amendment
6. Identify two reasons that explain why the fear of people of the Muslim faith is irrational: