

## ***The Crucible* Webquest**

### **A. Who is Arthur Miller?**

Google search Arthur Miller and answer the questions below:

1. What is Miller's full name?
2. Where was he born?
3. In what year?
4. When did he die?
5. Name another play Miller wrote besides *The Crucible*.
6. Why was Miller brought before the House of Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC)?
  
7. Whom did Miller marry soon after he appeared before the HUAC?

### **B. McCarthyism**

Miller wrote *The Crucible* in the 1950's, when something called McCarthyism was something of a modern-day witch hunt that affected Miller directly. Click on this link to McCarthyism and read up on it - <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/database/mccarthyism.html>

1. Who was Joseph McCarthy?
2. What was his public accusation?
3. "Known as McCarthyism, the paranoid hunt for infiltrators was notoriously difficult on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, many of whom were labeled communist sympathizers and were unable to continue \_\_\_\_\_. Some had their \_\_\_\_\_ taken away, while others were \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ to give the \_\_\_\_\_ of other communists. The trials, which were well publicized, could often \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ with a single unsubstantiated \_\_\_\_\_."
4. Name three people mentioned in the article who were singled out as Communists.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
5. The act of keeping people from work, an opportunity, access, or recognition is called  
B \_\_\_\_\_ G

### C. Salem Witch Museum

Go to the Salem Witch Museum link below and click on “The Trials” link. Read about the historical background of what happened and complete the required information.

<http://www.salemwitchmuseum.com/>

1. What four factors “created a fertile ground for fear and suspicion” in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, according to the article?

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

2. A “belief in the power of the accused to use their invisible shapes or spectres to torture their victims” is known as what type of evidence?

### D. The Real People Behind the Characters

Abigail Williams: <http://historyofmassachusetts.org/abigail-williams-salem/>

1. Why was Abigail living with her uncle, Reverend Parris, and his daughter, Betty?
  
2. How old was Abigail when she got caught “fortune-telling” with the other girls? (Deduce this from her birthdate.) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What “fortune-telling” technique were the girls using? Why were they doing it?
  
4. When Dr. Griggs told Reverend Parris the girls must be bewitched, Parris sought to find proof. Mary Sibley had a means for testing to see if someone was a witch. What did she instruct Tituba and her husband John to make in order to see if the girls were, in fact, bewitched? How was this made?
  
5. The first three women Abigail and Betty accused of witchcraft were
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
6. What did Abigail say she saw sitting with Martha Corey in church?

7. How often did Abigail claim that the witches in town were drinking blood?
8. What are two reasons that Abigail Williams and John Proctor most likely never had an affair as presented in the play, *The Crucible*?
  - a.
  - b.
9. Who wrote an essay in 1996 SUPPORTING the possibility of this affair? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What is most likely the real reason the girls accused John Proctor of being a witch?
  
11. Abigail accused \_\_\_\_\_ people of being a witch, but only testified against \_\_\_\_\_ of them. Of all these, \_\_\_\_\_ were executed via hanging or torture.
12. In 1697, who left Salem?
13. Abigail is thought to have died on or before the year \_\_\_\_\_ at the age of about \_\_\_\_\_.

John Proctor: <http://historyofmassachusetts.org/john-proctor-first-male-accused-witch/>

1. How many times was John Proctor married?
2. Before becoming a farmer, what successful business did Proctor run?
3. Sixteen years before the witch trials began, John Proctor testified against \_\_\_\_\_ who was eventually found guilty and fined for beating his farmhand.
4. Proctor was the first man accused of being a witch most likely because he was an “outspoken opponent of the trials and stated to many that the afflicted girls, who had been accusing many of the villagers of witchcraft, were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”
5. In addition to John’s wife, Elizabeth, which other Proctor family members were accused of practicing witchcraft?

Reverend John Hale: <http://historyofmassachusetts.org/reverend-john-hale-of-beverly/>

1. Where did Hale go to college?
2. What is the title of Hale’s book?
3. What did this book challenge?
  
4. Hale suggested “the fear of witchcraft was so great that it impaired the \_\_\_\_\_ of everyone involved in the \_\_\_\_\_, possibly resulting in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”

Judge John Hathorne: <http://saalem.lib.virginia.edu/people?group.num=&mbio.num=mb14>

1. Unlike other judges of the time, what did Judge Hathorne encourage those accused of witchcraft to do?

Ann Putnam, Jr.: <http://historyofmassachusetts.org/ann-putnam-jr/>

1. In *The Crucible*, Ann is portrayed through the name \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Ann accused \_\_\_\_\_ people, of which \_\_\_\_\_ were executed (hanged/tortured).
3. After her parents' sudden death seven years after the trial ended, Ann was left to raise how many siblings? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Ann is the only one of the "afflicted girls" to ever \_\_\_\_\_.

### **E. Salem Today**

1. What is the name of Salem Village today?
- 2) In this town (the answer to #1), what is located at...
  - a. 15 Proctor Street:
  - b. 149 Pine Street:
  - c. 67 Centre Street:

### **F. Experience the Trials**

Go to the site below and see if you can survive the trials! On the home page, you will "Click to continue." On the next page, you will need to scroll down a bit to see the "Experience the Trials" link.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/97/salem/>