STUDENT GOALS:
- Use different reading strategies to understand the plot, characters and themes.
- Change reading strategies when necessary to help understanding.
- Write about themes and apply to your own life or current events.

Crucible Guiding Questions:
~ How is writing connected to the time period in which it’s written? How do authors use writing as a form of social protest?
~ What makes a character believable?

Background Notes

Author — give some details about him (p. 1230):

Define the “Dramatic Structures” used in The Crucible (p. 1232):
- dialogue
- stage directions
- dramatic exposition

Write the True Story of the Salem Witch Trials:

A crucible is:

Describe the Setting of the play:

Puritan beliefs (about women, girls, dolls, church, government, land, work, witchcraft, dancing):
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Why was the idea of “possession” accepted?

Themes — list and explain them as we read and learn more about the play (1318):
1.
2.
3.
4.
What were the **McCarthy Hearings** (p. 1240, p. 1272):

Why did Miller write **The Crucible**?

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**Vocabulary Study:**

**Glossary:** these words are defined for you.

1. **theocracy:** governed by religion
2. **theology:** the study of a religious doctrine; what a particular sect believes
3. **Puritanical:** strict in morality and religion; this term has come about since the reign of the Puritans
4. **Spectral Evidence:** claim of seeing accused person’s spirit, or “familiar,” used as evidence in a trial

**Vocabulary:** define the following words. Be prepared to be tested on all 10 vocabulary words.

1. **dissembling:**
2. **conjure:**
3. **vindictive:**
4. **propriety:**
5. **diametrically:**
6. **defamation:**
7. **malevolence:**
8. **guile:**
9. **reprieve:**
10. **penitence:**

**Study Notes**

Answer each fully (sometimes in sentences, sometimes the answer is just a word or two). Keep these questions out and fill in your answers as we read and as homework. Answers to some of the questions might be found in the exposition sections.

**Act I  pg 1234-1263**

Notes – what happens in the Dramatic Exposition?

**Annotation Targets -- Take notes (with page numbers) about:**

- How people are expected to act in Salem according to Puritan law versus how they choose to act out of greed or fear. You need to list the person’s name, and the actions that show the contradiction.

- Reverend Parris’s character, reputation, and how he acts and interacts with others.
• Interactions between Abigail and John Proctor.

• The Putnams, their position in society, their attitudes toward others

• Betty & Abigail

• The truth about the girls – in multiple places in the act

• Tituba

• Naming names / Accusations

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**Act II**  pg. 1267-1287

Notes for Dramatic Exposition

**Annotation Targets -- Take notes (with page numbers):**

- Elizabeth and John Proctor’s relationship.

- Abigail’s power.

- References to the Bible.
• Accusations.

• Why people are accused of witchcraft.

• How you can be saved from accusations

• Fear

This would be a good place for you to refer to the anticipation guide. Do you see any themes that might apply to The Crucible? List 2 themes and explain (very briefly) how they might apply to The Crucible.
Annotation Targets -- Take notes (including page numbers) about:

- What things are proof that someone is a witch or is affected by witchcraft?

- How townspeople are treated by the members of the court (the Judges, the group of girls who “testify,” the guards and sheriff).

- Defense – what do they try? How does it work?

- Parris’s behavior and Hale’s behavior.

- References to the devil.

- References to the Bible

- Peer pressure.

- Honesty
• What is dramatic irony?
  o Which details in Elizabeth’s dialogue with Danforth reveal the dramatic irony in this scene?

• Elizabeth Proctor’s words and behavior

• John Proctor’s words and behavior

1. Explain the relevance of: “the good have nothing to fear.”

2. Paraphrase what John Proctor says in his last speech (Act III 1315). Why is this speech important to the play and what does it show about John’s character?
Annotation Targets -- Take notes about:

- How things have changed for Parris in Salem. How this affects his attitude.
  
Parris' position before w/ examples  |  Parris' position now w/ examples

- Rumors from Andover, effect on judges and Parris

- How the town and its people have changed since the start of the play.

- “It were another sort” of people who were hanged shows ...

- Pardon – what it means, how does it happen?

- Hale’s self-appointed “job”; his reaction to other main characters (the judges, the defendants who will be hanged)

- Interactions between Elizabeth and John Proctor.

- What confession means; what it results in; how others see it. (include who confesses)

- Proof of what is MOST important to Proctor.
TOWNSPEOPLE WHO BELIEVE CLAIMS OF WITCHCRAFT (OR WHO MAKE CLAIMS)

- Ruth Putnam
- Betty Parris
- Susanna Walcott
- Mercy Lewis

TOWNSPEOPLE WHO DON'T BELIEVE CLAIMS OF WITCHCRAFT

- John Proctor
- Mary Warren
- Martha Corey
- Giles Corey

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAW: SUPPOSED TO BE NEUTRAL

- Reverend Parris
- Reverend Hale

- Judge Danforth
- Judge Hathorne
- Rebecca Nurse
- Francis Nurse

- Cheever Court Clerk
- Herrick Salem Marshal
- Sarah Good