

**The Crucible: Act II**

**Dramatic Conventions:** Be able to define each term and apply each term to the play.

comedy \_\_\_\_\_

tragedy \_\_\_\_\_

dialogue \_\_\_\_\_

monologue \_\_\_\_\_

allegory \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the Stage Directions from Act Two to complete the chart below. If the function is provided, find a stage direction in Act Two that serves that function. If the Stage Direction is shown, describe the purpose and function in the play

FUNCTION	STAGE DIRECTIONS
DESCRIBE THE INSIDE OF A HOUSE	
DESCRIBE AN ACTION THAT SHOWS WHAT A CHARACTER IS FEELING	
DESCRIBE A TONE OF VOICE	
	<i>“With the whip raised he reaches out for her, and she streaks away and yells.”</i>
DESCRIBE AN ACTION AND HOW CHARACTERS REACT TO IT	
DESCRIBE WHAT A CHARACTER IS FEELING	
	<i>“For a moment PROCTOR watches from the doorway. The clank of a chain is heard.”</i>
	<i>“He throws her to the floor, where she sobs, “I cannot, I cannot...”</i>

## The Crucible

### **Act Two. Guided Reading Questions**

*Characters introduced: Ezekial Cheever and Marshall Herrick*

1. At the beginning of this act, John Proctor says, "It is winter in here yet." Why is this pertinent to what is going on?
2. Why has Mary Warren disobeyed her employers and gone to Salem?
3. What did Abigail Williams reveal to John Proctor? (Elizabeth reminds him of this.)
4. Why hasn't John told the court what he knows?
5. What does Elizabeth attribute his not telling to?
6. What lie did John Proctor tell to Elizabeth which makes her more suspicious of him?
7. What news does Mary Warren reveal to John and Elizabeth about the trials?
8. What does Mary Warren mean when she says, "I saved her life today!"?
9. What does Elizabeth realize when she finds out that she has been accused?
10. What does Elizabeth ask John to do?
11. Why does Reverend Hale visit the Proctors?
12. How does John Proctor respond to questions about why he has not been to church?
13. What does Reverend Hale ask Proctor to do?

14. Discuss the meaning of "Adultery, John." (page 67)

15. What information does John Proctor reveal to Reverend Hale?

16. What does Reverend Hale want John to do with this information?

17. Why does Elizabeth say that she doesn't believe in witches at this point?

18. What news does Giles Corey reveal to the Proctors and Reverend Hale?

19. What has Rebecca Nurse been accused of?

20. Why has Martha Corey been accused?

21. Why do Ezekial Cheever and Marshal Herrick arrive at the Proctor home?

22. What do they find in the Proctor home?

23. What does John ask Mary Warren to do?

24. Why is Mary so afraid to do as he asks?

25. Why does Mary Warren warn John about testifying against Abigail?

26. What does John decide to do?

**The Crucible Act Two: Quote-Context Activity**

**DIRECTIONS:** Make sure you read the section before and after your quote. Then answer the following questions for each passage in a well-structured paragraph:

- 1. What is the context? (*In other words*, what is going on when this is being said? Set the scene for us... tell the story at this point in the play.)
- 2. Why is this quote important? What does this say about the character(s)?

**Passage #1: Act II, Page 50, lines 21-28**

**Proctor:** If the crop is good I'll buy George Jacob's heifer. How would that please you?

**Elizabeth:** Aye, it would

**Proctor, with a grin:** I mean to please you, Elizabeth

**Elizabeth:** *-it is hard to say:* I know it, John.

*He gets up, goes to her, kisses her. She receives it. With a certain disappointment, he returns to the table.*

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**Passage #2: Act II Page 55, line 13-17**

**Elizabeth:** I do not judge you. The magistrate sits in your heart that judges you. I never thought you but a good man, John, only somewhat bewildered.

**Proctor:** *laughing bitterly:* Oh, Elizabeth, your justice would freeze beer!

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**Passage #3: Act II Page 55, line 13-17**

**Elizabeth:** I do not judge you. The magistrate sits in your heart that judges you. I never thought you but a good man, John, only somewhat bewildered.

**Proctor:** *laughing bitterly:* Oh, Elizabeth, your justice would freeze beer!

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**Passage #4: Act II Page 61**

**Elizabeth:** It is her dearest hope, John, I know it. There be a thousand names; why does she call mine? There be a certain danger in calling such a name—I am no Goody Good that sleeps in ditches, nor Osburn, drunk and half-witted. She'd dare not call out such a farmer's wife but there be a monstrous profit in it. She thinks to take my place, John.

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