

The Crucible: Act Three

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

tragic hero _____

tragic flaw _____

dramatic irony _____

verbal irony _____

situational irony _____

Enrichment Activity 3: Categorizing Characters by Role

When you read stories or plays with many characters, it is easy to lose track of just exactly who thinks what, who does what, and who offends whom. **Categorizing characters** according to their roles can help you keep track of any number of players. In addition, categorizing may lead you to a discovery about a character's motives or a plot development.

DIRECTIONS: Categorize the characters in Act III by answering the following questions.

Three different roles are played out in the court scene.		
Who are the court officials?	Who are the accusers in Act 3?	Who are accused in Act 3?
Some characters tell the truth, and some do not.		
Who lies in Act 3?	Who tells the truth in Act 3?	

The Crucible

Act Three. Guided Reading Questions

Characters introduced: Judge Hathorne and Deputy Governor Danforth

1. As this act opens, what accusation does Giles Corey make?
2. What news do we learn about Rebecca Nurse?
3. When John Proctor arrives at court with Mary Warren, what does Reverend Parris accuse him of?
4. What two pieces of evidence are brought out against Proctor in regard to his Christian nature?
5. What news does Danforth tell John Proctor about Elizabeth?
6. What deal does he try to make with him?
7. What is going to happen to the 91 people who signed the testament stating a good opinion of Elizabeth, Martha Corey, and Rebecca Nurse?
8. What is Giles Corey's proof that Thomas Putnam is "reaching out for land."? Why won't he reveal his source?
9. What happens to Giles Corey?
10. What is Reverend Hale's advice to John Proctor as he is about to read his disposition before the court?

11. What does Danforth think Mary Warren's appearance in the court might be?
12. When Mary Warren says that she pretended to faint in court, what is she asked to do?
13. What does Abigail do when suspicion that she might be pretending falls on her?
14. What does John Proctor do to discredit her?
15. Who is called to back up John's testimony? What happens?
16. What happens when Reverend Hale states that Abigail has always seemed false to him?
17. What is Mary Warren's reaction to Abigail's performance?
18. What does John Proctor mean when he says, "God is dead!"?
19. What does Hale do when Proctor is arrested?

EVALUTING ARGUMENT

Strong arguments are logical and based on solid reasoning or evidence. Weak arguments are based on faulty logic, which may include any of the following: (1) **false cause**-seeing a relationship where none exists, (2) **either-or-reasoning**- offering only two choices with no other alternatives, (3) **circular reasoning**- making a statement that uses the statement itself as support, (4) **overgeneralization**- making a general statement that is far too broad.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following charges made by one character against another. Evaluate the argument the character uses and explain your evaluation

1. **CHARGE #1:** *Proctor was not a good Christian because he seldom attended church and plowed on Sundays.*

EVALUATION & REASON: _____

2. **CHARGE #2:** *Danforth says a person is either with the court or against it.*

EVALUATION & REASON: _____

3. **CHARGE #3:** *Giles says that Mr. Putnam is accusing people of witchcraft so that Putnam can buy their land. Putnam said so in front of a witness and can afford the land.*

EVALUATION & REASON: _____

4. **CHARGE #4:** *Proctor says that Abigail is vengeful, because she had an affair with him but was later dismissed by his wife.*

EVALUATION & REASON: _____

5. **CHARGE #5:** *Proctor must be guilty because his wife will not accuse him of lechery.*

EVALUATION & REASON: _____

