

The Crucible Test

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Four."

- ____ 1. Which two men urge Deputy Governor Danforth to postpone the witch trials because a rebellion in the town seems possible?
 - a. Ezekiel Cheever and John Hale
 - b. John Proctor and John Hale
 - c. John Hale and Reverend Parris
 - d. Reverend Parris and Judge Hathorne

- ____ 2. What does John Hale urge Elizabeth Proctor to do?
 - a. persuade her husband to confess to witchcraft
 - b. admit that she lied about Abigail and John
 - c. promise to get the other women to confess
 - d. plead her own case because she is pregnant

- ____ 3. John tells Elizabeth that he has not confessed to being a witch because
 - a. he says that he has confessed to too many lies
 - b. Danforth and Parris want to use him as an example
 - c. he does not want to confess a lie to contemptible people
 - d. he is afraid that Danforth will hang Elizabeth for spite

- ____ 4. Elizabeth blames herself
 - a. for Mary Warren's lies
 - b. for John's affair with Abigail
 - c. for John's reluctance to confess
 - d. for John's imprisonment

- ____ 5. Elizabeth tells John that she "kept a cold house." Keeping "a cold house" means that she
 - a. never invited anyone to visit them
 - b. frequently let the fire go out
 - c. was not a loving or proper wife
 - d. refused to keep flowers or pretty things in the house

Extra Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Four."

- ____ 6. Which of these does **not** occur in Act Four?
 - a. The cows need milking.
 - b. The people argue over ownership of the cows.
 - c. The townspeople stop going to church.
 - d. Children wander from house to house.

- ____ 7. The Reverend Parris is worried about all of the following **except**
 - a. the trial's causing a riot
 - b. being killed
 - c. having no money
 - d. being accused of witchcraft

- ____ 8. The final scene between Elizabeth and John shows their
 - a. despair
 - b. corruption
 - c. reconciliation
 - d. victory

- 9. What does Hale do in Act Four?

 - a. He confesses his lack of education.
 - b. He goes to Andover to join the rioters.
 - c. He says that he himself should be arrested.
 - d. He begs the accused to save their lives.

— 10. What does Abigail do during this act?

 - a. She flees Salem.
 - b. She confesses to lying.
 - c. She begs for Proctor's life.
 - d. She refuses to testify.

Reading Skills and Strategies: Interpreting a Text

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Four."

- 11. Danforth does not want to postpone the hangings because

 - a. he does not want the people convicted of witchcraft to confess
 - b. the townspeople are looking forward to the hangings
 - c. the townspeople have put pressure on him to hang those convicted of witchcraft
 - d. people will think Danforth doubts the validity of the trials

Literary Elements: Motivation

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Four."

- ____ 12. Why does Elizabeth refuse to influence John's decision whether to confess?

 - She feels he must face his own conscience and make his own decision.
 - She cannot feel guilty if he refuses to confess.
 - She cannot feel guilty if he does confess.
 - She feels that he cannot blame anyone but himself if he does not confess.

____ 13. Which of the following is a strong motivation for John to tear up his confession?

 - His fear of eternal damnation if he swears to a lie.
 - He wants to be courageous like Rebecca Nurse and Martha Corey.
 - He believes that he has to pay for his sin of adultery with Abigail.
 - He believes that if he does not confess, he will save Elizabeth's life.

Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act One."

- ____ 14. Which of the following statements *best* describes Tituba?

 - She leads the girls astray.
 - She is from Boston, and Reverend Parris distrusts her.
 - She commonly performs minor acts of witchcraft.
 - She is a slave from Barbados who is devoted to Betty.

____ 15. What does Abigail Williams believe about her dismissal from the Proctor's service?

 - Elizabeth Proctor was hard to please.
 - Elizabeth Proctor drank and blamed Abigail for her drinking.
 - John Proctor did not fire her, but Elizabeth Proctor did.
 - John Proctor liked her and did not want her to work

____ 16. What is Ann Putnam's greatest grief?

 - Her daughter Ruth is about to die.
 - Seven of her children died in infancy.

- c. She is worried about Ruth's bad behavior.
 - d. She knows her husband is unfaithful.
- ___ 17. Why is the Reverend John Hale summoned?
- a. He is to settle the dispute between Parris and Parris's parishioners.
 - b. The parishioners want him to come and preach instead of Parris.
 - c. He has legal training and will help with the disputes over property.
 - d. He is an expert on witchcraft and can help Salem.

Extra Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act One."

- ___ 18. Which of the following significant events occurs after the play begins?
- a. A group of girls dances in the forest.
 - b. Giles sues Proctor for defamation of character.
 - c. Abigail accuses Goody Osburn of witchcraft.
 - d. Ruth Putnam acts strangely.
- ___ 19. The setting of the play is
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Salem, Massachusetts, 1692 | c. Boston, Massachusetts, 1692 |
| b. Salem, Massachusetts, 1630 | d. Beverly, Massachusetts, 1630 |
- ___ 20. Under duress, Tituba says all but which of the following?
- a. The Devil wants Mr. Parris killed.
 - b. She gave Abigail chicken blood to drink.
 - c. She did not compact with the Devil.
 - d. Five women came with the Devil.
- ___ 21. In the Overture of Act One, Miller says that Salem was run as a
- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| a. monarchy | c. oligarchy |
| b. theocracy | d. autocracy |
- ___ 22. Which of the following *best* describes John Proctor?
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. intelligent and independent | c. meek and shy |
| b. pious and religious | d. jovial and light-hearted |

Reading Skills and Strategies: Interpreting a Text

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act One."

- ___ 23. Arthur Miller gives us valuable information about Abigail's character when he says in a stage direction that she
- a. hates Reverend Parris
 - b. has a great capacity for lying
 - c. likes men too much
 - d. has too much influence over the other girls
- ___ 24. A possible motivation for later accusations of witchcraft is suggested by all of the following **except**
- a. John Proctor's disapproval of Reverend Parris
 - b. Putnam's land dispute with Giles Corey
 - c. Abigail's interest in John Proctor
 - d. Hale's statement that Betty is a witch

Literary Element: Motivation

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act One."

- ____ 25. When Abigail threatens Betty, Abigail is motivated by her
- jealousy of Betty's pampered life as the daughter of a minister
 - need for attention in the village because she is an orphan
 - fear of the villagers knowing everything they did in the woods
 - fear that Tituba will be accused of witchcraft
- ____ 26. Abigail accuses Goody Good and Goody Osburn of witchcraft because
- she is angry with John Proctor for rejecting her
 - the accusations seem to be a way to cause Parris trouble
 - something evil happened to the girls in the forest
 - she can persuade Mrs. Putnam and not be punished

Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Three."

- ____ 27. Deputy Governor Danforth
- seems proud and does not like his authority challenged
 - is eager to hear Giles Corey's defense of his wife
 - believes that the girls accusing the women of witchcraft are frauds
 - is an ignorant, humorless man who refuses to listen to evidence
- ____ 28. What does Abigail Williams do as soon as Danforth begins to question her?
- She begins to cry and behave hysterically.
 - She says that Elizabeth Proctor sent her spirit out.
 - She says that they must all beware of the Devil.
 - She threatens Danforth.
- ____ 29. What does John tell the court about his wife?
- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| a. She is about to confess. | c. She will not lie. |
| b. She will charge Abigail with murder. | d. She is pregnant. |
- ____ 30. Who is taken to jail at the end of Act Three?
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. Martha Corey and John Proctor | c. Giles Corey and John Proctor |
| b. Mary Warren and Martha Corey | d. Elizabeth Proctor and Mary Warren |

Extra Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Three."

- ____ 31. Danforth suspects that Proctor views the court mainly with
- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| a. respect | c. uncertainty |
| b. fear | d. contempt |
- ____ 32. Danforth has signed many death warrants, and so has
- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| a. Parris | c. Herrick |
| b. Hale | d. Putnam |
- ____ 33. Giles believes that Putnam's motivation for accusing people of witchcraft is
- | | |
|------------|----------|
| a. revenge | c. lust |
| b. fear | d. greed |

Reading Skills and Strategies: Interpreting a Text*The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Three."*

- ____ 34. Parris's concerns about the depositions presented suggest all of the following **except** that he
- wants to see justice done
 - believes he can advance his career if the trial goes well
 - believes he can get rid of the people who oppose him
 - is worried about people finding out the truth
- ____ 35. Abigail triumphs for all of the following reasons **except**
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Danforth believes her and not John | c. Elizabeth lies to save her husband |
| b. Mary Warren rejoins the girls | d. John denounces the trials |

Literary Element: Motivation*The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Three."*

- ____ 36. Danforth does not want to find out that the girls' accusations are false because he
- will not be able to acquire the victims' land
 - will be blamed for the deaths of innocent people
 - is afraid people will think him ignorant of the law
 - does not want his involvement with Abigail revealed
- ____ 37. Elizabeth's motivation for lying about John's affair with Abigail is that
- she is embarrassed and does not want anyone to know
 - the villagers will think she has been a bad wife
 - she is afraid that John will be arrested as a witch
 - she loves John and wants to protect him

Comprehension*The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Two."*

- ____ 38. Mary Warren
- accuses Elizabeth Proctor of being a witch
 - claims that she is an official of the court trying witches
 - lies to Reverend Hale
 - does not like either Elizabeth or John Proctor
- ____ 39. When he comes in from planting, what suggestion does John Proctor make to his wife concerning the house?
- He wants her to make Mary Warren clean it.
 - He says that the house is dark and dreary.
 - He says because their family is larger, they need more room.
 - He suggests that she bring in some flowers.
- ____ 40. What reason does John Proctor give Reverend Hale for his absence from church?
- He does not think Reverend Parris is godly.
 - He needs the time to work his farm.
 - His children have been frequently ill.
 - God does not require constant church attendance.
- ____ 41. Which commandment does John forget when Hale asks him to recite the Ten Commandments?
- Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.

- b. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
 - c. Thou shalt not steal.
 - d. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- ____ 42. What is unusual about the doll that Mary Warren makes for Elizabeth?
 - a. It has a needle stuck in its stomach.
 - b. It looks like Abigail.
 - c. Mary made it from corn shucks and shells.
 - d. It looks like Elizabeth.
- ____ 43. As Elizabeth is led away to jail, what does John demand of Mary Warren?
 - a. that she stay away from the witch trials in the town
 - b. that she inform the court that Abigail is lying
 - c. that she take care of the Proctor children until Elizabeth returns
 - d. that she stop lying and accusing people of being witches

Extra Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Two."

- ____ 44. During this act, Mary Warren has become
 - a. meeker
 - b. honest
 - c. bolder
 - d. independent
- ____ 45. Which is the strongest evidence against Goody Osburn?
 - a. She is pregnant.
 - b. She curses Mary Warren for turning her away.
 - c. She accuses the girls of lying.
 - d. She cannot say the Ten Commandments.
- ____ 46. Hale tests the Proctors by questioning them about all of the following **except**
 - a. their relationship
 - b. the Ten Commandments
 - c. their church attendance
 - d. their belief in witchcraft
- ____ 47. What does Proctor say when Hale questions him about not going to church?
 - a. He does not like the Reverend Parris.
 - b. He has necessary farm work to do.
 - c. His wife Elizabeth has been ill.
 - d. His conduct is not Mr. Hale's business.
- ____ 48. What is the most probable cause of the accusation of witchcraft?
 - a. a desire for vengeance and power
 - b. a real belief in sorcery
 - c. a desire to overthrow the government
 - d. a belief in the triumph of the rational mind

Reading Skills and Strategies: Interpreting a Text

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Two."

- ____ 49. One of the chief conflicts established in Act Two is between
 - a. John and Elizabeth Proctor
 - b. Elizabeth Proctor and Mary Warren
 - c. John Proctor and John Hale
 - d. John Proctor and Ezekiel Cheever

Literary Element: Motivation

The questions below refer to the selection "The Crucible, Act Two."

- ____ 50. Mary Warren's motivation for joining the girls in their accusations of witchcraft is
- her hatred of John and Elizabeth Proctor
 - that she has been mistreated by some of the women in the village
 - that she is a lonely girl who craves friends and attention
 - that she wants power over others

Essay

Please answer the following essay prompt in proper essay format. You should have an introduction, three body paragraphs (one for each incident of irony and subsequent explanation,) and a conclusion.

51. In *The Crucible*, several ironies, or discrepancies between appearance and reality, emphasize the evil of the events surrounding the Salem witchcraft trials. On a separate sheet of paper, describe at least three examples of dramatic, situational, or verbal irony from the play and explain why they are ironic.

