

The Crucible

Socratic Seminar

Suggestions

Questions to help guide you:

1. Analyze one of the characters in *The Crucible*. Explore the character's conflicts, motivation, significant actions or decisions, and changes or discoveries. What was your response to your character? (Possible characters: Proctor, Elizabeth, Judge Danforth, Abigail, Parris)
2. Mr. Hale is a dynamic character. Use details from each act to trace the changes he undergoes in the course of the play. Based on the transformation he undergoes, is Mr. Hale a truly good man? Why or why not?
3. Who holds the most blame for the events in Salem? Why?
4. One of the possible themes of *The Crucible* is it may be better to die with integrity than to compromise your faith, honor, and decency in order to live. How does the play illustrate this theme?
5. Rebecca's solid faith in God's judgment helps her find courage to face the court's judgment. How might Salem's crisis during the witch-hunt be seen as a crisis of faith?
6. Discuss the issue of pride in *The Crucible*. What characters demonstrate pride? How does their pride affect their actions?
7. Does Salem's court create justice or injustice? Explain.
8. What are the similarities between the Salem witch trials and the Red Scare in America?