

## *The Crucible Act I Essay Prompts*

- **Due Friday, Jan. 29th by 11:59 PM to turnitin.com**
  - **Workdays:** 1/28, 1/29
  - 40 Points Possible
  - Provide at least 4 direct quotes (can be paraphrased)
  - 12 pt. Font, Times New Roman, Double Spaced
  - 2 - 4 pages
  - MLA format, refer to MLA guide
  - Grammatical errors beyond three will be returned to you to revise before receiving final grade.
1. The Salem witch trials were an opportunity for neighbors to vent against neighbors, to publicly air long - standing jealousy, to accuse those they disliked, all while sounding righteous and religious! What foreshadowing of vengeful accusations occurs in Act I?
  2. Reverend Parris is weeping and praying over his daughter Betty's bed. What evidence is there in Act 1 that Reverend Parris is far more concerned about something other than his daughter's well-being?
  3. Thomas Putnam is portrayed as a vindictive man, greatly concerned about money. The narrator also finds it interesting that his daughter led the crying -out when - but here the narrator stops, although by now it is clear that some of Thomas Putnam's interests, perhaps financial, were at stake. Putnam insists to the Rev. Parris that there are evil spirits at work here. Moreover, Mrs. Putnam chime sin that she has had seven babies die. She admits she sent her daughter Ruth to Tituba, who knows how to speak to the dead, to find out who or what is ailing her daughter. Based on what we have read, what can be said about the Putnam's motives and character?

**Rubric:**

	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Depth of Reflection</b>	Demonstrate a conscious and thorough understanding of the writing prompt and subject matter. This reflection can be used as an example for other students.	Demonstrate a thoughtful understanding of the writing prompt and subject matter.	Demonstrates a basic understanding of the writing prompt and subject matter.	Demonstrates a limited understanding of the writing prompt and subject matter. This reflection needs revision.	Demonstrates little understanding of the writing prompt and subject matter. This reflection needs revision.
<b>Use of textual evidence and historical context</b>	Use specific and convincing examples from the texts studied to support claims in your own writing, making insightful and applicable connections between texts.	Use relevant examples from the texts studied to support claims in your own writing, making applicable connections between texts.	Use examples from the text to support most claims in your writing with some connections made between texts.	Use incomplete or vaguely developed examples to only partially support claims with no connections made between texts.	No examples from the text are used and claims made in your own writing are unsupported and irrelevant to the topic at hand.
<b>Language Use</b>	Use stylistically sophisticated language that is precise and engaging, with notable sense of voice, awareness of audience and purpose, and varied sentence structure.	Use language that is fluent and original, with evident a sense of voice, awareness of audience and purpose, and the ability to vary sentence structure.	Use basic but appropriate language, with a basic sense of voice, some awareness of audience and purpose and some attempt to vary sentence structure.	Use language that is vague or imprecise for the audience or purpose, with little sense of voice, and a limited awareness of how to vary sentence structure.	Use language that is unsuitable for the audience and purpose, with little or no awareness of sentence structure.
<b>Conventions</b>	Demonstrate control of the conventions with essentially no errors, even with sophisticated language.	Demonstrate control of the conventions, exhibiting occasional errors only when using sophisticated language.	Demonstrate partial control of the conventions, exhibiting occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.	Demonstrate limited control of the conventions, exhibiting frequent errors that make comprehension difficult.	Demonstrate little or no control of the conventions, making comprehension almost impossible.