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Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*The Crucible*

**Act One Questions**

**Part 1**

 1. What do you find out about Reverend Parris in the first paragraph?

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 2. Where and when does the play take place?

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 3. What do you learn about the Puritan society (beliefs and daily lives)?

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 4. How were the Puritans of Salem in 1692 different from those that arrived on the Mayflower?

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 5. What is the paradox that the Salem tragedy developed from?

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 6. What did the witch-hunt allow the Puritans to do that hey had not been able to in the past?

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 7. Who brings the news that there is no medication for Betty to the Reverend? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 8. What does Abigail tell Susan before she leaves?

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 9. What did the Reverend catch Betty and Abigail doing?

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10. What can you interpret about Reverend Parris’s character from his conversation with Abigail? (You may

 want to write down quotes and they indicate what they say about him)

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11. What does Reverend Parris mean when he says “Your name in town-it is entirely white, is it not?

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12. What does Goody Putnam (aka Mrs. Putnam or Goody Ann) say that Betty did?

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13. What do you know about Thomas Putnam?

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14. Mr. and Mrs. Putnam are the parents to whom? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15. What has happened to their child?

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16. What could Thomas Putnam’s motive be in the witch hunt?

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17. Mrs. Putnam begins to point the blame on whom? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

18. How does Mrs. Putnam’s claim gain momentum or strength?

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19. Who is Mercy Lewis and what does she look like?

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Finish reading at stage direction “Mrs. Putnam goes out”

*Below list the characters that have been introduced and their relationships to one another.*

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*The Crucible*

**Act One Questions**

**Part 2**

20. How is Parris’s mind changed about going to address the crowd downstairs?

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21. Who is Mary Warren?

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22. What does the conversation between Abigail, Mercy, and Marry Warren (with an interjection by Betty) reveal about the plot?

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23. What does the conversation between Abigail, Mercy, and Marry Warren reveal about their relationships with each other?

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24. Why would Abigail want to kill Goody Proctor?

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25. Who is John Proctor?

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26. How do Mercy and Mary respond to Proctor’s entrance?

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27. What can you infer about the relationship between Abigail and Proctor by the beginning of their

 conversation?

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28. How does Proctor react to Abigail’s advances towards him?

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29. Who is Rebecca Nurse (aka Goody Nurse)?

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30. What is going to end up happening to Rebecca Nurse?

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31. What does Rebecca say is wrong with the girls?

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32. In the conversation between Parris, Putnam, Proctor, Mrs. Putnam, and Rebecca, what is

 revealed about their characters?

 Parris: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Putnam:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Proctor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Mrs. Putnam:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Rebecca:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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33. What is Proctor commenting on when he says “Why, then I must find and join it.” What tone or literary

 device is he using?

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34. Who is Reverend John Hale?

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35. What was the outcome of the girl in Hale’s parish that was afflicted?

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36. What does the narrator mean when he says “the necessity of the Devil may become evident as a weapon, a

 weapon designed and used time and time again in every age to whip men into surrender”?

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Diabolism: the worship of devils

37. What type of political culture does Miller seem to think would be best?

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38. What does Miller say that reminds you that the Red Scare is going on in the United States?

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Klatches: A fictional location (country)

Lascivious: driven by lust

39. Giles Corey seems very interested in what is going on. What could his motivation be?

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40. How many girls were dancing in the forest?

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incubi (incubus): a male demon believed to lie on sleeping persons and to have sexual intercourse with sleeping

 women

succubi (succubus): A female demon who would visit men at night and engage in sexual activity

41. What does Giles say that his wife does? How does this affect him?

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42. Interpret the paragraph about Giles Corey. What does this say about him?

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\*Stop reading after the paragraph about Giles Corey.

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*The Crucible*

**Act One Questions**

**Part 3**

Licentious: lacking moral discipline

43. What does Abigail say had jumped into the soup while they were dancing?

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44. What does Hale ask Abigail?

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45. What does Abigail claim that Tituba makes her do?

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46. Parris tells Tituba that she must do what or he will “take you out and whip you to death”?

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47. Who does Putnam offer up as people who may be working with the devil?

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48. Tituba claims that the devil asked her to kill Mr. Parris many times. How can you interpret this? What does

 it say about her life in his household?

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49. What do you think is Abigail’s motivation to “open” herself?

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50. By the end of the first act who has been named a witch? (12 names)

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Act One serves as an excellent introduction to most of the central characters. (English)

* Assign each group of students one character. Have them outline on chart paper and report to the class what they have learned about the character and how they learned it.
* Have students brainstorm and list human frailties found in the character(s) and suggest who possesses each frailty:
	+ lust - John Proctor
	+ pride - Reverend Hale
	+ greed - Reverend Parris
	+ revenge - Mrs. Putnam
	+ ignorance - Giles Corey
	+ self-indulgence - the girls
	+ dishonesty - Abigail, the girls, John Proctor
* Frequently in serious literature one character assumes the role of the voice of reason. In Act one of The Crucible, the voice of reason is Rebecca Nurse. Have students examine the Act for ways in which Rebecca attempts to apply reason to the situation.

Act One also provides an excellent introduction to themes explored in the play.

* Assign each group of students a different theme (see p.23 of this guide). Have them go through Act one looking for instances in which the theme is addressed. These can be listed on chart paper and shared with the class.
* Students can select scenes from the play in which aspects of theme are introduced and present these dramatically to the class.

The plot is carefully developed in Act One.

* Have students examine the act for conflicts between characters. These conflicts can be listed on chart paper.
* Students can develop a chart that visually presents the rise of action in the plot. (English)
* Dramatic readings of sections of the Act that are key to plot development can be presented to the class.