

## *The Crucible* – Overture

Each group is responsible for “teaching” their assigned paragraphs. The group will explain the meaning of their assigned selection and provide answers for their assigned questions. Each group will ALSO prepare a creative presentation (drawing on the board, short skit, slideshow, poster, etc.) that will illustrate (symbolically?) their assigned paragraphs.

| Group # |                          | Paragraphs |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|
| #1      | Setting                  | 1 – 3      |
| #2      | Theocracy                | 4 – 5      |
| #3      | The wilderness           | 6 – 8      |
| #4      | “City on a hill”         | 9 – 10     |
| #5      | Next generation Puritans | 11 – 12    |
| #6      | Withcraft                | 13 – 15    |

### **Group #1**

1. Describe how the narrator/author sees Rev. Parris.
2. Explain, in detail, the “town” and describe how the Puritan’s viewed their “town.”
3. According to these paragraphs, what was the economic situation in Salem during this time?
4. How did the Europeans view the Puritans?
5. What was the Puritan life like?

### **Group #2**

5. What does the narrator/author mean when he says that “There was a good supply of ne’er-do-wells?” Describe what you think a ne’er-do-well is and what their life might be like in Salem 1692.
6. What reason “more than the creed” does the author give for the people of Salem remaining so strongly united? Will that reason remain valid (consider when the author says, “the time of the armed camp had almost passed” in your response)?
7. Explain the duty of the two-man patrols appointed by the Church-Govt. as police officers. What exactly were they policing?

8. List the main conflict/tension of this section: \_\_\_\_\_ vs. \_\_\_\_\_

*Suggested Tension: The stereotypical view of Puritans vs. the Real view flaws and all*

### **Groups #3**

9. How did the Puritans view the forest and why?
10. Explain why the Puritans viewed the Indians as heathens.
11. How did the Puritans view other sects of Christianity? According to the author why did they feel this way?
12. What is the main conflict/tension in this section?

### **Group #4**

13. What does it mean to believe one holds the candle that lights the world?
14. Explain the type of government that was established by the Puritans upon arrival?
15. List three character traits your peers should understand about the Puritans?
16. What conflicts/tensions are established in this part of the text.

### **Group #5**

16. Look up the word JUNTA in the dictionary, and write the definition here that makes the best sense with how it is used in this section.
17. What governmental change occurred that may have seemed frightening to the Puritan people?
18. How does Miller explain a THEOCRACY? (And what might “material or ideological enemies” mean?)
19. Other than possible witches, what does Miller say made these Puritans feel panic?

### **Group #6**

20. What does Miller say about the balance between order and freedom?
21. How does Miller explain the witch-hunt?
22. What does Miller say are two or three reasons that people felt good about crying witch against their neighbors?

23. Based on the previous question: In this section, what is Miller's attitude about the strictness of the Puritans?