

The Crucible – Essay Plan

“How might an audience react to the courtroom scene in Arthur Miller’s play, ‘The Crucible’? What social comments are being made here?”

In this essay, you need to show **THREE** things:

- That you understand how this play works as a DRAMA
- That you understand the characters and their behaviour
- That your writing is clear, well-planned and easy to follow.

The following are guides to follow when you write your essay. Use the sentence starters, but make sure that you add YOUR OWN ideas and comments.

INTRODUCTION:

- Title, author – is a play that deals with _____
- It contains many events and characters that relate to _____
- In act three’s crucial courtroom scene, Arthur Miller presents important _____
- The audience has plenty of opportunity to _____

This scene has been broken up into seven key events. For each event in this scene, try to **include and discuss** the following points:

1. What is happening in this part of the scene.
2. Any information about the major character that you are focusing on.
3. Why this event is important, both for a DRAMA and for the characters involved.
4. What an audience might feel here.
5. What this event tells us about the way people in general behave or act (a social comment).

USE QUOTES WHERE YOU CAN!
EXPLAIN YOUR POINTS!

PART ONE:

- We join the court scene with Mary Warren having just agreed to _____.
- Mary can be described as _____. We can see this when _____.
- Mary's agreement is an important decision, both for the play and for her personally. [explain why]
- An audience may support her decision, but would be interested in _____.

PART TWO:

- The Reverend Samuel Parris, a man keen to disprove Mary's claim, asks Mary Warren to _____.
- Parris is a _____.
- This event is important because it shows each character's personalities well: Mary is _____.
- Mary's problems would cause an audience to feel _____.
- This moment in the scene helps us to see that people can sometimes be _____.

PART THREE:

- With a strongly worded attack, John Proctor accuses _____.

PART FOUR:

- Now with pressure mounting, Proctor admits _____.

PART FIVE:

- In a crucial moment of both the scene and indeed the whole play, Elizabeth Proctor is brought in to _____.

PART SIX:

- Faced with the consequence of _____ if they get named as liars, Abigail and the girls pretend _____.

PART SEVEN:

- In a huge climax to a vital scene, Mary Warren loses her nerve and _____.