

## *The Crucible*: Historical, Cultural, and Biographical Context

*The Crucible* is \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_.

### Puritanism

Puritanism is a Christian faith that originated in \_\_\_\_\_ during the early \_\_\_\_\_s. Puritans believed in \_\_\_\_\_. They split from the Church of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_. Many \_\_\_\_\_ to the American colonies. Their \_\_\_\_\_ beliefs flourished in the \_\_\_\_\_ world.

### Witchcraft in Salem

Like all \_\_\_\_\_, the residents of \_\_\_\_\_ Village believed in \_\_\_\_\_ and in witchcraft. They believed that witchcraft was “entering into a compact with the \_\_\_\_\_ in exchange for certain powers to do \_\_\_\_\_.” They considered witchcraft both a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_; it was a very serious \_\_\_\_\_, which was carefully and thoroughly \_\_\_\_\_. The witchcraft \_\_\_\_\_ began in Salem, \_\_\_\_\_, in early \_\_\_\_\_. Reverend Samuel Parris’s \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Williams started having fits of \_\_\_\_\_, screaming, and \_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_ examined the girls and concluded that the only explanation for these \_\_\_\_\_ behaviors was \_\_\_\_\_. A recently \_\_\_\_\_ book of the time detailed the \_\_\_\_\_ of witchcraft; the girls’ \_\_\_\_\_ were much like those described in the book. Therefore, the Puritans of \_\_\_\_\_ were quick to believe the doctor’s \_\_\_\_\_. The girls pointed fingers at \_\_\_\_\_ (the Parris’ slave), Sarah \_\_\_\_\_, and Sarah \_\_\_\_\_, which sparked a \_\_\_\_\_ hunt. During the next \_\_\_\_\_ months of terror, more than \_\_\_\_\_ people were \_\_\_\_\_ for witchcraft. By the time \_\_\_\_\_ was dismissed, \_\_\_\_\_ people had been \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_, and 1 \_\_\_\_\_ to death. The hysteria that snowballed in Salem reveals how deep the belief in the supernatural ran in colonial America.

### McCarthyism

\_\_\_\_\_ is the term used to describe a period of \_\_\_\_\_ suspicion in the United States during the early \_\_\_\_\_s. It began when Senator Joseph \_\_\_\_\_, a U.S. senator from \_\_\_\_\_, claimed that communists had infiltrated the Department of \_\_\_\_\_. A special House \_\_\_\_\_ on Un-American Activities was formed to investigate \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. During this period, people from all walks of life became the \_\_\_\_\_ of aggressive “\_\_\_\_\_” often based on \_\_\_\_\_, questionable \_\_\_\_\_. Persons accused of being \_\_\_\_\_ were often denied \_\_\_\_\_ in both the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ sector. In the \_\_\_\_\_ industry alone, over \_\_\_\_\_ actors, \_\_\_\_\_, and directors were denied \_\_\_\_\_ in the U.S. American \_\_\_\_\_. Arthur \_\_\_\_\_, was one of those alleged to have been “\_\_\_\_\_.” McCarthy’s influence finally faltered in \_\_\_\_\_ when a famous CBS \_\_\_\_\_, Edward R. \_\_\_\_\_, aired an investigative news \_\_\_\_\_ which revealed McCarthy as \_\_\_\_\_ in his speeches and \_\_\_\_\_ in his interrogation of \_\_\_\_\_. The public was finally made \_\_\_\_\_ of how McCarthy was ruining the \_\_\_\_\_ of many individuals through \_\_\_\_\_ accusations of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Arthur Miller

Arthur Miller lived from 1915 to \_\_\_\_\_. He was an American \_\_\_\_\_ and writer. In \_\_\_\_\_ he wrote \_\_\_\_\_, which uses the Salem witchcraft \_\_\_\_\_ of 1692 to \_\_\_\_\_ the anti-communist “witch hunts” of the 1950s. He believed the \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding the witchcraft trials in Puritan \_\_\_\_\_ paralleled the \_\_\_\_\_ of McCarthyism – Senator Joseph McCarthy’s obsessive quest to \_\_\_\_\_ communist party \_\_\_\_\_ of American \_\_\_\_\_. After the \_\_\_\_\_ of *The Crucible*, Miller himself was \_\_\_\_\_ for possible associations with the \_\_\_\_\_ party. He \_\_\_\_\_ to give information regarding his \_\_\_\_\_ and was found \_\_\_\_\_ of contempt of \_\_\_\_\_. His sentence was later \_\_\_\_\_.