

Unit 1: "The Crucible" Essay

Choose one of the following prompts from which to create a well-written, thought-provoking essay:

1. In *The Crucible*, Arthur Miller suggests that sacrifices may be necessary to restore the social order. Discuss the necessary sacrifices made by at least two of the play's characters, analyzing why they were necessary. Be sure to choose sacrifices that are similar in nature.
 - a. How to write a thesis that forms a unique judgment:
 - i. Your thesis will state something unique about what Miller is saying about why these sacrifices (more specifically, what about the sacrifices and/or the people who made them) were deemed necessary for restoring social order.

2. Analyze the theme of hysteria as it is developed in the play. Develop your thesis with references to the relationship of the theme to Abigail, Tituba, and Mary Warren. Remember, it is not about people being hysterical, it is about hysteria. Be sure you understand the difference if you choose this prompt.
 - a. How to write a thesis that forms a unique judgment:
 - i. Your thesis will make a unique statement about what specific point Arthur Miller is making about hysteria through these three characters.

3. Analyze the theme of hypocrisy as it is developed in the play. Make sure you develop your thesis with references to at least two specific examples that demonstrate hypocrisy in a similar way so that you have something analytical to say about this one-word theme. (Remember, we are looking for what point Miller is making about hypocrisy.)
 - a. How to write a thesis that forms a unique judgment:
 - i. Your thesis will make a unique statement about what specific point Miller is making about hypocrisy through these characters, actions or examples.

EXPECTED CONTENT:

- CLEAR purpose—the reader is aware of the thesis statement, knows WHY you are proving this, and sees larger connections beyond the book (awareness of author purpose)
- RELEVANT details—demonstrates read and understood the novel and can incorporate evidence from the novel and other readings to support your thesis.
- EFFECTIVE COMMENTARY that explains the **relevancy** of the details provided
- SHOWS clear awareness of understanding effective organization of writing
- FREE OF ERRORS and double-spaced, times new roman 12 font, 1 inch margins

Process required:

_____/25 Pre-write that shows thought and preliminary organization of ideas

_____/75 Rough draft

_____/25 Typed final draft

Essay Rubric

Above Standard	At Standard	Below Standard
One-sentence, arguable thesis that takes a risk; clearly stated or implied	One-sentence, arguable thesis; directly stated or somewhat implied	Unclear thesis
Uses a variety of aptly chosen details including detail(s) from <i>Anthem</i>	Uses a variety of details that support the thesis including detail(s) from <i>Anthem</i>	Details lacking; or writer does not cite <i>Anthem</i> ; or details do not connect to the thesis
Intro grabs reader's attention, clearly and effectively introducing the topic	Intro clearly introduces the topic and keeps the reader somewhat interested in reading on	Intro is not enticing; reader is confused and or disinterested in reading on
Writer smoothly and creatively transitions from topic to topic	Writer attempts to transition from topic to topic, though some transitions may be predictable	Transitions between topics are missing or confusing
Conclusion effectively ends the paper but also leaves the reader with something to think about	Conclusion brings paper to a close, summarizing and attempting to leave the reader with something to ponder	Conclusion does not effectively bring paper to end
The paper has an easy flow and rhythm. It is easy to read aloud.	The text moves along efficiently, but lacks rhythm and grace. It may sound technical or mechanical instead of pleasant and musical.	The paper is difficult to follow or read aloud.
Spelling, comma placement, grammar are correct; very little editing needed	Spelling, comma placement, grammar are usually correct; a few mistakes are evident here and there	Paper doesn't appear to have been edited for spelling, comma placement or grammar.

GradeCam ID

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