The Crucible Act IV
Study Guide

1. Why does Miller open Act IV with a scene of madness?

He did this in order to get the readers attention.

2. What influence on events do the occurrences at Andover bear?
Because people were revolting at Andover, the court at Salem becomes worried of executing people. The court wants more confessions and it causes Abigail to flee.

3. What are Hale's and Parris' personal reasons for wanting to obtain a confession?

   a. Hale:

   Hale does not want Proctor to die because he feels that if Proctor dies, Proctor's blood is on his hands.

   b. Parris:

   Parris wants a confession so he can keep his high position in court.

4. What are the reasons Danforth does not relent? (Note that he i_____ accuses Elizabeth of being hardhearted.)
   Danforth does not want to seem weak or wrong because he wants to be viewed as the only savior of Salem.

5. What philosophical conclusions has Hale arrived at as a result of the Salem ordeal?
   He believes that maybe he shouldn't follow a faith that harms other people. He believes vengeance is not just.

6. What are the reasons John offers for considering confession?
    John believes he will not have a noble death so he would rather live as a man who has lost his word. Doesn't feel worth to be hung next to Martha Cory and Rebecca Nurse.

7. Why can Elizabeth offer John no advice in his last moral agony?
    Because John needs to forgive him self.

8. What details of the confession procedure convince Proctor that it is evil and cause him to recant?
    He had to admit that his friends were also the devil workers and he would not sign the paper.

9. What is the ultimate irony of the play?
    The ultimate irony is that everyone lies.

10. What is a "crucible"?
    A crucible is a severe test or trial.

Format of Test
- Character Identification with quotes - Match people with their descriptions
- Quote Id - tell who said the quote
- Fill int eh blank - know author, where the book takes place and the year of the salem which trials
- 5 short answers coming straight out of study guides
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