

The Crucible

5-Paragraph Essay

100 Points

Your task: Explain why *The Crucible* is an appropriate title for Arthur Miller's play. Use events, characters, and ideas from the play to support your explanation.

Before we start
brainstorming, let's
discuss the definition
of crucible...

1. A pot that is made of a material that allows it to be used for the melting of substances that require a high degree of heat.



2. *A severe test*

The word is used frequently in the news:

From *The New York Times*:

"Obama's Crucible Moment at Intersection of Politics and the Economy"

From *Asia Times*:

"Egypt as crucible of Middle East tensions"

Now, BRAINSTORM!

1. In what ways are the events of the play like a **crucible**, a dish where materials are broken down and melted? (Is heat or fire part of that relationship?)

In what way are the events like a severe test?

2. What characters are broken down or changed as they would be in a **crucible**? How?

What characters are involved in a severe test and how?

3. What ideas are broken down or changed?

Are any ideas tested in the play?