***The Crucible***

**Act IV Study Guide**

1. What do the stage directions in the scene between Herrick and the accused witches tell us about the relationship between the prisoners and the jailers?

2. Describe the circumstances around the fate of Abigail?

3. What does the news of what is happening in Andover have to do with the trials in Salem?

4. Parris says, "You cannot hang this sort. There is danger for me." What "sort" does he mean, and what is the danger to him?

5. Why does Parris suggest the hanging be postponed? Why is Danforth so adamant that the hangings continue?

6. What are the conditions in Salem? Why?

7. Why does Reverend Hale tell the accused witches to confess?

8. Why does Danforth want Proctor to see Elizabeth? What does he hope it will cause him to do?

9. Proctor says, “My honesty is broke, Elizabeth, I am no good man.” Explain.

10. “I have given you my soul; leave my name!” Who said this? Explain.

11. Why does Proctor initially say he will confess? Why does he refuse to sign the confession?

12. Why does Parris beg Elizabeth to get John's confession? Why does she refuse?

13. Why does Miller end the play with Proctor's refusal to sign the confession and Elizabeth's refusal to beg him to do so?

14. Which of the following characters -- Abigail, Proctor, Hale and Elizabeth -- have changed over the course of the play? How have they changed?

15. A theme is a central idea the writer wishes to share with the reader. The idea may be a lesson about life or about people and their actions. What are some themes of The Crucible?

16. In Act IV, what motivates several of the characters to resist the mob mentality that has swept through Salem?