***The Crucible***

**Act IV Study Guide Honors**

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. Re-read the conversation between Herrick and Danforth, especially lines 75-83. What does Danforth mean when he tells Herrick “There is a prodigious stench in this place.” (*Hint: He does not mean that the jail smells.*)

3. Describe the circumstances around the fate of Abigail? What does that have to say about her character?

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

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

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

7. What are the conditions in Salem that Hale describes? Why?

8. Why does Reverend Hale tell the accused witches to confess? Why does this cause him conflict?

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

10. What happened to Giles Corey? Explain the difference between his situation and the other accused?

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

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

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

14. When Parris beg Elizabeth to get John's confession she refuses. Why?

15. Explain why each of the following characters wants John and the other prisoners to confess. Cite textual evidence.

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

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

18. 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. List and explain at least 3 themes in The Crucible?

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