

<p><u>Main characters:</u></p> <p>John Proctor - The play’s tragic hero (character with a fatal flaw). Proctor is a good man, but his fatal flaw is his lust for Abigail Williams which led to their affair.</p> <p>Abigail Williams - The villain and femme fatale of the play (a seductive woman who causes distress to a man who becomes involved with her). She lies and manipulates people and is motivated by her lust for John Proctor and her desire to take revenge on Elizabeth.</p> <p>Reverend John Hale - A young minister and an expert on witchcraft.</p> <p>Reverend Parris - The minister of Salem’s church. Reverend Parris is a paranoid, materialistic and disliked by the townspeople.</p> <p>Betty Parris – Reverend Parris’s ten-year-old daughter.</p> <p>Tituba - Reverend Parris’s black slave from Barbados. Tituba agrees to perform voodoo at Abigail’s request.</p> <p>Elizabeth Proctor- John Proctor’s loyal and virtuous wife..</p> <p>Francis Nurse - A wealthy, influential man in Salem.</p> <p>Judge Danforth - The presiding judge at the witch trials.</p> <p>Giles Corey – A brave character who suffers for his acts.</p>	<p><u>Context:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arthur Miller was born in American in 1915. He initially subscribed to the concept of the American Dream but later saw it as a failure when his family lost their money in the Wall Street Crash. • Americans were fearful that Russia would take over and impose communism on them • Politician, Joseph McCarthy, claimed to have a list of communists within the state department. • HUAC (The House Committee on Un-American Activities). The HUAC (led by McCarthy) interviewed citizens suspected of communist or anti-American activities. • McCarthyism furthered the panic and hysteria within the country and eventually society became paranoid, making false accusations (based on rumour not evidence) to avoid being tainted themselves. • America’s McCarthyism parallels Salem, Massachusetts in 1692 when the village was tormented by the hysteria of witchcraft allegations and the subsequent witch trials 	<p><u>Literary devices and play conventions:</u></p> <p>Parable-a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson</p> <p>Chorus- A ‘chorus’ is a group of people who are commenting on the actions, decisions and beliefs within the play</p> <p>Colloquialism- informal language, or slang.</p> <p>Stage directions- an instruction in the text of a play indicating the movement, position, or tone of an actor, or the sound effects and lighting.</p> <p>Prose inserts- commentary on characters</p> <p>Symbolism- the use of an object, person or event that represents something.</p>
<p><u>Characteristics of a tragic hero:</u></p> <p>Hubris</p> <p>Harmartia</p> <p>Peripetia</p> <p>Anagnorisis</p> <p>Nemesis</p> <p>Catharsis</p>	<p><u>New vocabulary:</u></p> <p>Arbitrate- to act as an impartial judge in order to settle disputes.</p> <p>Beguile to mislead by cheating or tricking; deceive.</p> <p>Calamity-deep trouble or misery; any extreme misfortune bringing great loss and sorrow.</p> <p>Theocracy- a government by a person or persons claiming to rule with divine authority. Theology the study of the nature of God and religious belief.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE CRUCIBLE – TERM 1 Year 9</p>	<p><u>Key themes:</u></p> <p>Fear</p> <p>Morality</p> <p>Intolerance</p> <p>Relationships</p> <p>Power</p> <p>Injustice</p> <p>Hysteria</p> <p>Religion</p>