

Key Events

Pa. 1

So what?

(Explain/Expand:  
what does it show,  
illustrate, prove?)

Hysteria Begins

Abigail + John's Affair

Eliz Accused

Proctor brings Mary to  
Court + reveals  
affair to expose  
Abigail's motive

Mary rescinds her  
testimony + accuses  
Proctor of witchcraft

Proctor's moral dilemma -  
confesses → takes back

Hangs → regains "his goodness" - internal

Symbolism:  
Crucible -  
a test or trial  
that brings about  
change

Reason not prevailing/  
selling is conducive  
to dogmatic thinking  
→ fuels conflict  
- establishes P. as complex  
" " Ab's motive character  
Proctor has to reveal affair to  
save Eliz (conflict)

→ He's willing to sacrifice  
self for Eliz - shows  
he's overall good man

Blc he exposed  
→ himself, he  
is caught up in  
hysteria (CLIMAX)

Internal conflict  
→ evolving motivation  
true motive: to protect name

→ has been struggling  
w/ integrity all along +  
finds @ in decision.

Conflict resolved

Key Events

Pd5

So what?

(Explain/Expand:

what does it show, illustrate, prove?)

Hysteria Begins

Abigail + John's Affair

Eliz Accused

Proctor brings Mary to Court + reveals affair to expose Abigail's motive

Mary rescinds her testimony + accuses Proctor of witchcraft

Proctor's moral dilemma - confesses → takes back

Hangs → regains "his goodness"

Symbolism: The Crucible → test or trial that brings about a change

Setting conducive to dramatic thinking - fear overshadows reason  
Proctor as flawed character  
Gives Abigail motive

Proctor has to sacrifice self (shows his good) → further conflict

He's willing to sacrifice his reputation for his wife (motivation)

Shows Mary is untrustworthy + looks to save herself unlike Paris who finds him in the middle of hysteria as a result of his efforts to save Eliz.

Shows internal conflict + evolving motivation. Ultimately he wants to save his name - save others

His moral struggle is resolved → Shows what's most important to him

Key Events

Pa. Setting

So what?

(Explain/Expand:  
what does it show,  
illustrate, prove?)

Hysteria Begins

Reason

is not prevailing - sets off hysteria

Abigail + John's Affair

shows Proctor is troubled (complex character)  
→ Establish motive for Abigail

Eliz Accused

→ Proctor has to reveal his sin + give up rep to save her (shows goodness selfless)

Proctor brings Mary to Court + reveals affair to expose Abigail's motive

Proves Mary to be weak - emotions prevail - his plan backfires → he ends up in the middle of hysteria

Mary rescinds her testimony + accuses Proctor of witchcraft

he tries to save E  
→ how faces hanging

internal conflict

Proctor's moral dilemma - confesses → takes back

shows evolving motivation -  
to save self → save name  
(shows his goodness)  
DYNAMIC CHARACTER

Hangs → regains "his goodness"

→ Integrity restored

SYMBOLISM:

Crucible: test or a trial that brings about change.

@ 1 w/ his morality  
→ shows what he values most

English 11R  
Critical Lens Essay

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### TASK 4 – CRITICAL LENS

**Your Task:** Write a critical essay in which you discuss The Crucible and The Great Gatsby from the perspective of the statement that is provided for you in the Critical Lens. In your essay, provide a valid interpretation of the statement, agree or disagree with the statement as you have interpreted it, and support your opinion using specific references to appropriate literary elements.

#### Critical Lens:

“All literature shows us the power of emotion. It is emotion, not reason, that motivates characters in literature.”

— paraphrased from an interview with Duff Brenna

#### Guidelines:

##### Be sure to

- Provide a valid interpretation of the critical lens that clearly establishes the criteria for analysis
- Indicate whether you agree or disagree with the statement as you have interpreted it
- Use the criteria suggested by the critical lens to analyze The Crucible and The Great Gatsby.
- Avoid plot summary. Instead, use specific references to appropriate literary elements (for example: theme, characterization, setting, motivation, point of view) to develop your analysis
- Organize your ideas in a unified and coherent manner
- Specify the title and author of both works
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

## Introductions:

-No "I agree"

*This is proven true....  
This is explored in...*

-Avoid splitting up the middle of the sentence with the lens:

*The quote, "...men are at the mercy of events out of their control" means that...*

-Include genres

*Crucible is a play*

-**Thesis** - one, concise statement connecting each character to the lens

-Can't start a sentence with "While"

*Holden... while Proctor....*

## Body Paragraphs:

**Topic Sentence:** Usually focus on 1 specific character and how he/she applies to the lens. This will be the **MAIN IDEA** of your paragraph

Do not write: "applies to the lens because..."

-Bring up events in the order in which they happen -

-Don't ignore **MAJOR events** in your analysis (for example, the trial is "kinda a big deal!")

**Literary Elements** - Can be implied versus stated -

*Proctor's motivation is... vs. Proctor is <sup>(motivation)</sup> determined to ensure that his wife does not pay for his sins.*

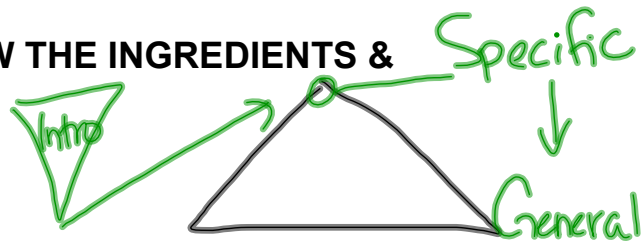
*"Proctor is characterized as" vs. "Proctor, a complex character made up of both sin and virtue, set out to curb the hysteria..."*

**Don't list elements** - *He's characterized as...he motivated to....The conflict is...*

*USE POWER VERBS to make connections between plot and the lens: This illustrates...this shows...the conflicts he faces underscore...*



**Conclusions: KNOW THE INGREDIENTS & ORDER!!!**



-No "in conclusion"

-Don't restate the quote/lens in your conclusion

-Review the ingredients of a conclusion:

^rephrase thesis - can use "both" here

→ Holden/  
Proctor

^Rephrase topic sentence body 1

^Rephrase topic sentence body 2

^**Rephrase Interpretation** - that is your universal statement

"People" "One" "in life"

## General Errors:

-Present (tries)

Proctor confronts Abigail.

vs.

Progressive tenses (is trying)

is confronting (still happening)

vs.

Past (tried)

-No "you/your" (avoid personal pronouns like you, I, we, etc.)

passive voice \* active voice

-is faced with vs. faces (passive vs. active voice)

-Comma Splices

-No "however" in the middle of a sentence

in between clauses

Subj. | verb | Subj. | verb  
Proctor | confronts Abigail, | she | still wants him.

Independent Clause

but

Ind. clause

S | V | S | V  
He | resists her, | however, | she | still pines  
for him.

She, however, still pines for him.