



Course Description: *The Crucible* (Years 8-10)

Suitable for: Years 8-10

Prerequisites: *Poetry for Beginners* OR *Literary Techniques* (one-day crash course)

Duration: 2 hours every week for 10 weeks; **20 hours total**

About: Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* has everything: deception, paranoia, and even witches. If you think your friends are crazy, wait till you read what the people in the American town of Salem got up to in the 1690s. Thank God we're all much more sensible now!

Actually, Miller's play suggests that we're *not*. *The Crucible* is an allegory about what was happening in America during the 1950s, suggesting that it's harder to dismiss some ideas as 'what some crazy people in the past thought'. Without becoming crazy ourselves, we will analyse Miller's play about people losing their wits and accusing each other of witchcraft.

Student Writing Outcomes:

- Introductions, body paragraphs, and conclusions based on *The Crucible*;
- Full essays answering a range of essay questions; and
- Opinion pieces based on the scenes and characters in the play.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Reviewing and redrafting essays and opinion pieces;
- Compiling and reviewing notes;
- Analysing a play within its context;
- Considering the similarities and differences between different historical periods; and
- Reflecting on how the events in these periods can help us understand what's going on today.