

The Crucible: FAQ Research and Web 2.0



For this assignment you will research background information related to Arthur Miller's drama, *The Crucible*. This assignment is worth two (2) quiz grades and three (3) test grades.

Your task is to answer FAQ's, i.e., "Frequently Asked Questions" related to your research topic by **summarizing research findings** and to **create a resource site** for your classmates' use. A pathfinder providing links to subscription databases, books, e-books, and free websites has been created for this project. You can access the pathfinder through the Media Center home page: <http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/MediaCenter/electronic/pathfinders/english/arthur-miller-crucible.htm>

You will be given time in the Reading/Writing Lab to research. You are expected to continue your research on your own since you can access the pathfinder via any internet connection (You just need to make sure you have the Media Center passwords).

Requirements for Research:

- ❖ Use a minimum of three sources in your research: 1 subscription database source; 1 free website; 1 actual book that you take from a shelf. *The Media Center has an excellent inventory of actual books related to the topics.*
- ❖ Document your research with in-text citations in the body of your summary and a Works Cited page.
- ❖ Create an Annotated Bibliography using NoodleTools.com to create your Works Cited page.
- ❖ Print and photocopy your sources and submit them with your summary; Highlight and annotate cited material.

There are five deliverables for this project:

Deliverable	Brief Description	Due Date
Web Evaluation Form – 1 quiz grade	Completed for free website source	Monday, Oct. 25 th
Hardcopy: Draft summary – 1 quiz grade	A typed, double-spaced summary of research for your question, including in-text citations, and Works Cited page	Wednesday, Oct. 27 th
Hardcopy: Edited and revised summary – 1 test grade	A typed, double-spaced summary of research for your question, including in-text citations, and Works Cited page	Monday, Nov. 8 th
Hardcopy: Annotated Bibliography/Works Cited – 1 test grade	One polished paragraph reflecting on why the source was helpful to your research.	Monday, Nov. 8 th
"Wiki" – worth 1 test grade	A Wiki-page, including your final version of your summary, multimedia, and citations.	Monday, Nov. 8 th

Requirements for “Hardcopy” deliverable:

- ❖ Typed, double-spaced, 12 point font and 1 inch margins
- ❖ MLA header (Your Name, Course, Teacher’s Name, Date)
- ❖ Each section introduced by research question
- ❖ Summary approximately 200 words
- ❖ Word count at the bottom of the page
- ❖ Clearly written in formal English
- ❖ Organized; smooth transitions from one idea to the next
- ❖ Direct quotes integrated into writing
- ❖ In-text citations for any direct quotes and paraphrased material
- ❖ Direct references to author and source
 - ✚ Do not use the words "in this article." Use the style "Crane argues that the most significant contribution of the Czechs was . . ."
- ❖ Annotated Works Cited page created using Noodletools.com
- ❖ Annotated and highlighted copies, or photocopies, of your sources

Your “Hardcopy” deliverable will be graded on content; writing, grammar and mechanics; and the proper integration of research, which includes in-text citations and your works cited page.

Requirements for “Wiki” deliverable:

- ❖ Follow template provided by Ms. Hickson (sample below)
- ❖ Find and upload relevant multimedia (images, audio, video), with citations
- ❖ Citations
- ❖ Link your page to the “Table of Contents”

Your “Wiki” deliverable will be graded on visual appeal, relevance of multimedia, completion, citation integrity, and user-friendliness.

Wiki-page format:

Question	Multimedia
Your Research Summary	
Citations	

Note: Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Take good notes. Don’t wait until the last minute. See me for help. But do not compromise your academic integrity, or risk a zero on the assignment, by plagiarizing.

****We will spend the week of October 18th in the Reading/Writing Lab****

Agenda for the week:

Day 1 (10/18): Quick recap of library catalog; lesson on web evaluation

Day 2 (10/19): Free research; students must find and evaluate one web site for use on Day 3

Day 3 (10/20): Address any web evaluation questions; review NoodleTools; create citation for web site

Day 4 (10/21): Lesson on annotated bibliographies; students begin writing annotation

Day 5 (10/22): Introduce wiki; demonstrate image citation

TOPICS and QUESTIONS

Topic 1: Arthur Miller

- A. What are some key events in Arthur Miller's personal life?
- B. What were Arthur Miller's beliefs and political views, especially regarding communist connections and activities?
- C. What other works did Arthur Miller write, and why is he considered a significant American playwright?
- D. What was Arthur Miller's encounter with the House Un-American Activities Committee?
- E. Why did Arthur Miller write *The Crucible*? How was *The Crucible* received by the public and critics?

Topic 2: McCarthyism and the Red Scare

- A. What caused the Cold War to escalate during the post-World War II period?
- B. What was HUAC? Why was it created? When was it abolished? Summarize the points of view of those who supported it and those who opposed it.
- C. Who was Joe McCarthy? Why is he a controversial figure in U.S. history? Summarize his background and career in politics.
- D. What were McCarthy's aims and methods, and who were his victims?
- E. What events led to McCarthy's downfall? What lessons were learned as a result of his presence in American politics?

Topic 3: The Puritans

- A. What type of people were the Puritans, and what is Puritanism?
- B. What was their social structure, i.e., economy, government, laws, hierarchies?
- C. What was the daily existence of the Puritans like?
- D. What was the *Bay Psalm Book*? What is *The Day of Doom*? Why are these important works of American literature?
- E. Who are the significant figures in American Puritanism? What Puritan beliefs did their lives, words, or actions reflect? Briefly summarize the biographies of three people.

Topic 4: The Salem Witch Trials

- A. What events led to the Salem Witch Trials?
- B. Who are the major players in the trials: accused, accusers, and magistrates?
- C. What social and religious factors are given to account for the harsh response to witchcraft in the 17th century?
- D. What happened to the accused? Summarize their treatment and fates.
- E. How did the trials finally end? What occurred in the aftermath of the trials?