The Crucible: Act I

1. Parris questions Abigail about the girls dancing in the woods and about whether her name is “good” in the village.
2. Abigail claims that Elizabeth Proctor dismissed her because she was lazy, but says that the Proctors wanted her to work like a slave. The real reason: Abigail had a sexual relationship with John Proctor.
3. Betty is scared, but wants the girls to tell the truth; Abigail is determined to avoid trouble, and pressures the girls to lie.
4. Abigail threatens the girls with stabbing them and making their lives hell. Miller wants us to understand that Abigail is dangerous.
5. John and Abigail had an affair months ago. Abigail wants him back; John would sooner cut off his hand.
6. John Proctor thinks Reverend Parris is greedy and unholy.
7. Rebecca Nurse is calm and thoughtful; she believes the girls are just being silly teenagers, and they will stop in time. Mrs. Putnam is anxious and reactionary; she believes the girls are being influenced by the devil.
9. Giles Corey tells Rev. Hale that Corey’s wife reads strange books and does not tell him what they are. He cannot pray while she reads them, but when she stops, he can. This foreshadows Martha Corey’s arrest.
10. When Reverend Hale confronts her, Abigail blames Tituba and says that Tituba made her laugh in church and control her spirit. Tituba is vulnerable – she is a slave and is not supported by the community.
11. Tituba is told to confess to being a witch or be whipped. Tituba confesses, hesitates to name name, and then accuses Sarah Good and Goody Osburn.
12. Abigail is shown in a light and setting that seems to be holy and inspired by God.
The Crucible: Act II

1. Mary Warren goes to Salem because she is an official of the court; it is the first taste of power/importance Mary has in her life.
2. Elizabeth asks John to go to Salem and tell the court that Abigail told him that they were just dancing in the woods; that there was no witchcraft involved. John hesitates because he still has feelings for Abigail.
3. Elizabeth is not a warm person, and the Proctor’s marriage is strained.
4. Mary Warren tells the Proctors that Osborne confessed and that Goody Good will be hanged.
5. Mary Warren means that Elizabeth Proctor was named in court, but that she defended her. Elizabeth realizes that Abigail wants her dead.
6. Hale asks Proctor to recite his Ten Commandments to prove that he heads a Christian household.
7. The irony is, Proctor forgets the one commandment that he has broken: Adultery.
8. John tells Hale that Abigail is lying, that she told him the girls were “sportin’.”
9. Giles Corey questions to Hale about the books his wife reads result in her arrest for being a witch.
10. a. Rebecca Nurse is a well-respected, Puritan woman. She seems the least likely person to be a witch.
    b. Green World: what is new and pure
    Burning: destruction and corruption
    c. Hale is starting to doubt the goodness/fairness of what is happening in Salem
11. Cheever and Herrick arrive at the Proctors to arrest Elizabeth.
12. Cheever respects the Proctors and doesn’t believe Elizabeth is a witch (which is why he is astonished) and saw Abigail with a stab wound in the same place the needle is on the doll and now suspects Elizabeth (which is why he is afraid).
13. John Proctor reveals that he is still protective of his wife and still cares for her.
14. Mary is afraid that if she tells the truth, Abigail will hurt her and warns John that Abigail will call him out as a lecher (an adultery) if he goes to court for his wife. John threatens to kill her if she does not go to the court and tell the truth. Mary is terrified.
The Crucible: Act III

1. Giles Cory comes to the court with a letter that accuses Putnam of making up accusations in order to gain the accused land.
2. Hale still believes that the court can appeal to justice, but he is in doubt.
3. Danforth's response to Francis Nurse, who has found out his wife is to be hung, is ironic because Nurse should be in an uproar.
4. a. answers vary
   b. Danforth wants to protect his court and to change his opinion now would diminish his power.
5. Danforth tells John Proctor that Elizabeth is pregnant and will not die for at least a year, when things in Salem will probably return to normal. Danforth says if all Proctor wants is to keep Elizabeth alive, he should drop his charges.
6. The people who signed the statement stating that Elizabeth Proctor, Martha Corey, and Rebecca Nurse are good people will be arrested and questioned.
7. Rev. Parris is frightened that, should Proctor, Nurse, and Corey prove that the girls are false, he will lose his position as Reverend in Salem.
8. Rev. Hale's actions:
   - Prevent John from getting a lawyer to plead his case; be just

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Free his wife and friends; see Abigail as false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giles</td>
<td>Free his wife and friends; accuse Putnam of false accusations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danforth</td>
<td>Keep his court and power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Parris</td>
<td>Discredit John and Giles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Hale</td>
<td>Allow John to get a lawyer to plead his case; be just</td>
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10. Mary Warren is asked to show the court how she fakes her fainting; she cannot fake fainting.
11. Mary begins to falter in her testimony when Abigail enters the courtroom.
12. John Proctor discredits Abigail by accusing her of being a whore and admitting his own adultery.
13. John believes Elizabeth will tell the truth and explain that Abigail was dismissed because of their relationship. Elizabeth is called to back up John's story, but she lies for him, thinking to save his reputation.
14. Abigail screams and acts as though there is a bird on the ceiling, ready to pluck her eyes out. The girls mimic her.
15. Hale denounces and leaves the court when Proctor is arrested.
The Crucible: Answers to Packet Questions

Act IV

1. Salem is desolate and depressed.
2. Rev. Hale returns and asks the accused to confess, even though it is a lie, in order to save themselves from hanging. Hale has completely changed since the beginning of Act 1, and now believes that God would want the accused to lie.
3. Parris reveals that Abigail stole all his money and ran away, maybe to a ship headed for Barbados.
4. The court believes that, in order to appear in control and maintain power, they must not waiver from their decisions.
5. Rev. Hale means that he is guilty for his initial support of the court. Hale recognizes his own guilt in the process and repents the death warrants he has signed.
6. Parris wants Danforth to postpone the hangings, but Danforth refuses because it will make the court look weak.
7. Rev. Parris and Danforth want John Proctor to confess, so they speak with Elizabeth Proctor to try to convince her to convince John to confess.
8. Giles Corey was pressed to death. He refused to answer if he was guilty or not, so stones were placed on his chest until he suffocated. Each time they asked him to give a plea, he said, “More weight.”
9. John’s excuse for confessing is, since he is already guilty of adultery, he will not be any worse off with God if he lies and he will be able to go home to his family. If he hangs, he protects the reputations of his friends, Rebecca and Martha, dies with honor, and fights back against the court.
10. John says he will confess, at first.
11. Elizabeth believes John is a good man because he has chosen to go to his death rather than lie.
12. Danforth wants John to sign a confession, give him the names of other witches (specifically Rebecca Nurse and Martha Corey), and allow him to tack his confession to the church door so the whole town can see it.
13. John Proctor refuses to be an example of how the court is “just”, so he rips up his confession to save his reputation.
14. Miller is suggesting that Salem is still dark and gloomy, that although the play is ended, the audience should be left with a feeling of desolation.