

the
CRUCIBLE
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FOCUS QUESTION (PROMPT):

Pick five characters in *The Crucible* whose personality flaws contribute to the tragedy. In your analysis explain how this quality contributes to the tragedy of the play.



1. TOPIC SENTENCE
(1 SENTENCE)

*-The topic sentence must
answer the prompt and tell what the paragraph
will be about*

*-Use a transition (one word transitions are
okay for now)*

TOPIC SENTENCE (EXAMPLE)

In *The Crucible*, one character who has a personality flaw that contributes to the tragedy is Abigail.



2. EXPAND AND EXPLAIN (1-2 SENTENCES)

-Here you provide more depth and detail about your topic sentence, so your reader is absolutely sure what it is you will be attempting to convey

-Imagine that someone reads your topic sentence and says, "What do you mean by that?" Answer them!

-Be sure to use general ideas. DO NOT give a specific example from the text.

2. EXPAND AND EXPLAIN (EXAMPLE)

Throughout the play, she proves herself a consummate liar.



3. SUMMARIZE A KEY SCENE (3-5 SENTENCES)

- Here you provide a scene from the text that proves your topic sentence.
- Using your own words, explain what happened in the scene, focusing on the details that prove your topic sentence.
- Sometimes it helps to pretend I haven't read the story in a while so you have to "jog" my memory.
- You may use a transition—for example, for instance

3. SUMMARIZE A KEY SCENE (EXAMPLE)

In the beginning of the play, her uncle, Parris, sees her dancing with other girls in the forest. He thought he saw someone naked running through the trees. When he questions Abigail about this, she responds, “No one was naked! You mistake yourself uncle!” (Miller 11). He presses her to confess any abomination she may have committed to him. But she lies again, saying, “There is nothin’ more. I swear it, uncle” (Miller 11).

4. QUOTED PASSAGE

- Remember to effectively integrate your quoted passage into your textual support.
- You may use brackets to change words in the quote, so the quote is integrated smoothly into your discussion. You **MUST** learn how to do this so that you're in control of the quoted passage rather than the quoted passage being in control of you!
- If you wish to skip a portion inside the quote that doesn't relate to your topic, use ellipses (. . .) to show your reader you have cut out part of the passage. You do not need to use ellipses if you cut something from the beginning or end of the quote.
 - Use MLA format to document the quote: (Twain 32).

4. QUOTED PASSAGE (EXAMPLE)

In the beginning of the play, her uncle, Parris, sees her dancing with other girls in the forest. He thought he saw someone naked running through the trees. When he questions Abigail about this, she responds, “No one was naked! You mistake yourself uncle!” (Miller 11). He presses her to confess any abomination she may have committed to him. But she lies again, saying, “There is nothin’ more. I swear it, uncle” (Miller 11).

5. ANALYSIS (COMMENTARY) (2-3 SENTENCES)

-This is arguably the most important part of the 6-part paragraph.

-You must thoroughly and completely explain how your example and quote support the idea you presented in the topic sentence

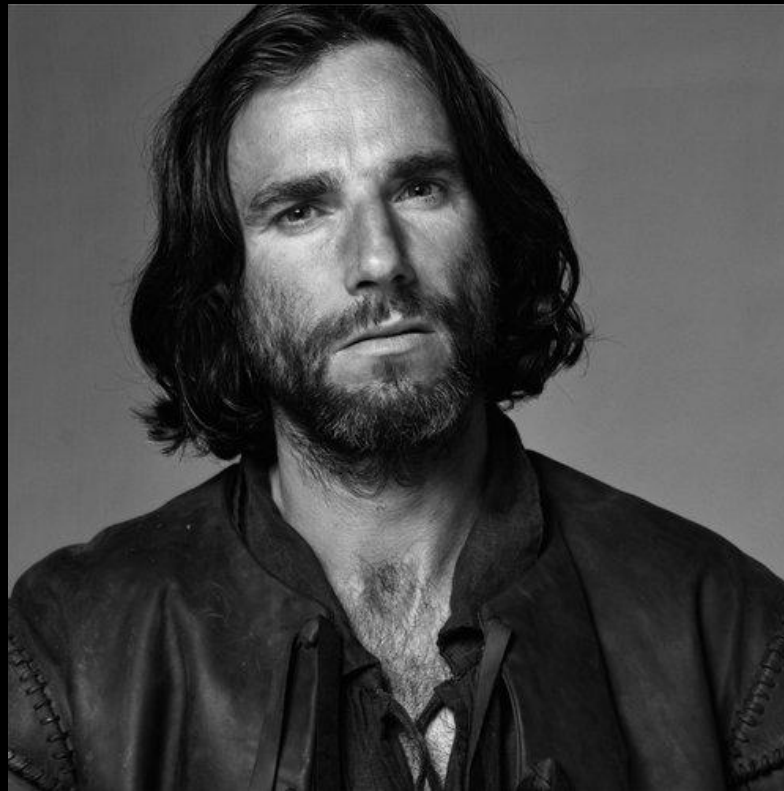


5. ANALYSIS (EXAMPLE)

Her lies become more brutal as the play progresses until she stands in front of a court of law and pretends that people in the community are tormenting her. She even stabs herself with a needle so that she can accuse Elizabeth Proctor of being a witch. She leads the other girls to lie too, and they accuse many townspeople of witchcraft. She lies so well that educated men believe her over their own common sense.

6. CONCLUDING SENTENCE (1 SENTENCE)

Here you need to bring closure to your paragraph. It is never a good idea to simply repeat your topic sentence; instead, use different words to restate and reinforce your topic.



6. CONCLUDING SENTENCE (EXAMPLE)

Because of her lying, many innocent people in Salem will die.

