

THE CRUCIBLE - Act I Reading Guide Questions

Please answer in complete sentences and use textual evidence with citations.

1. Why has Reverend Parris sent for a doctor as the play begins?
2. What advice does the doctor send back?
3. What does Parris question his niece Abigail about?
4. What is Parris' main concern?
5. What did Parris see in the woods the previous night?
6. What has Elizabeth Proctor said about Abigail?
7. Why does Abigail say she was dismissed by the Proctors?
8. What rumors have circulated the town about Betty Parris? What proof later occurs that "proves" that she is a witch?
9. Why did Mrs. Putnam contact Tituba?
10. Who does Abigail accuse of conjuring spirits at this point?
11. What does Betty Parris reveal about what happened in the woods?
12. What threat does Abigail make to the other girls?
13. What happened in the past between John Proctor and Abigail? How do each of them feel about it now?

14.What is the function of Rebecca Nurse in the play?

15.How does John Proctor feel about Reverend Parris?

16.What is the dispute between John Proctor and Thomas Putnam?

17.Why is Reverend Hale in Salem?

18.What does Giles Corey reveal to Reverend Hale?

19.When Abigail is questioned by Reverend Hale, who does she blame? What proof does she offer?

20.What ultimatum is Tituba given?

21.Who does Tituba accuse of being a witch?

22.Why does Abigail start accusing people at this point?

23.Why does Betty Parris start accusing people?