

# ***THE CRUCIBLE* CHARACTER ANALYSIS**

<b>CHARACTER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTER</b>	<b>MOTIVATION FOR ACTIONS</b>	<b>PERSONALITY TRAITS</b>
<b>Abigail Williams</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17-year-old niece of Rev. Parris</li> <li>• had an affair with John Proctor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to protect herself</li> <li>• her desire to have John Proctor all to herself</li> <li>• witnessing her parents' murder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• good at deceiving others</li> <li>• violent</li> <li>• untrustworthy</li> <li>• leader</li> <li>• vengeful</li> </ul>
<b>Betty Parris</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-year-old daughter of Rev. Parris</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• scared to get in trouble</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• scared</li> </ul>
<b>Reverend Parris</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salem's minister; disliked by many people in the town</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the fact that he has many enemies who want him gone from Salem</li> <li>• doesn't want people to find out the truth about what happened in the woods</li> <li>• wants to persecute his enemies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• defensive</li> <li>• self-absorbed</li> <li>• nervous</li> <li>• paranoid</li> </ul>
<b>Ann Putnam</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mother of Ruth and seven babies who died at birth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• depression from losing seven children</li> <li>• desire for revenge for the death of her children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paranoid</li> <li>• crazy</li> <li>• depressed</li> </ul>
<b>Mary Warren</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Proctors' current servant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• her fear of Mr. Proctor</li> <li>• her fear of Abigail and the other girls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• submissive and inferior</li> <li>• unreliable</li> <li>• naïve</li> <li>• lonely</li> </ul>

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTER	MOTIVATION FOR ACTIONS	PERSONALITY TRAITS
<b>Thomas Putnam</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• father of Ruth</li> <li>• richest man in the village who can afford to buy any land forfeited by a “witch”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• accused others as a way to gain their land</li> <li>• wants to persecute his enemies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• well-to-do, hard-handed landowner</li> <li>• used to getting his way</li> <li>• vindictive</li> </ul>
<b>Tituba</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rev. Parris’s slave from Barbados</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• she knows she can never win because of who she is</li> <li>• she’s smart enough to know how to save herself</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• intimidated by authority</li> <li>• smart</li> </ul>
<b>John Proctor</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• husband to Elizabeth; had an affair with Abigail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• doesn’t want his secret to come out</li> <li>• his dignity</li> <li>• his desire to do what is right</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cautious</li> <li>• reasonable</li> <li>• dignified</li> </ul>
<b>Elizabeth Proctor</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wife of John Proctor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• her faith in God</li> <li>• to preserve her dignity</li> <li>• to protect her husband</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• practical</li> <li>• tenderhearted</li> <li>• reasonable</li> <li>• honest</li> </ul>
<b>Giles Corey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 83-year-old man who provides comic relief in the play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to feel/look/sound important</li> <li>• to protect the innocent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sharp</li> <li>• clever</li> <li>• inquisitive</li> <li>• physically strong</li> </ul>

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTER	MOTIVATION FOR ACTIONS	PERSONALITY TRAITS
<b>Reverend Hale</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an expert on witchcraft</li> <li>• comes to Salem to investigate possible witchcraft</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• his experience and knowledge</li> <li>• his faith in the court</li> <li>• his conscience telling his what's the real truth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quick to come to conclusions</li> <li>• doesn't consider all the facts</li> <li>• practical</li> <li>• good-intentioned</li> </ul>
<b>Danforth</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the deputy governor of the province</li> <li>• leads the witchcraft trials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain the court's authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• authoritative</li> <li>• powerful</li> <li>• intimidating</li> </ul>
<b>Rebecca Nurse</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 72-year-old woman from Salem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• her faith and her wisdom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• highly respected</li> <li>• wise</li> <li>• gentle</li> <li>• fair</li> <li>• logical</li> </ul>
<b>Mercy Lewis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17-year-old girl</li> <li>• the Putnams' servant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to protect herself and Abigail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sly</li> <li>• merciless</li> </ul>
<b>Marshal Herrick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an authority of the court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• his duty to the court</li> <li>• his guilty conscience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dutiful</li> <li>• guilty conscience</li> </ul>

**USE EACH CHARACTER'S NAME ONLY ONCE TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

List the characters from the chart who were in the woods: **Abigail Williams, Betty Parris, Tituba, Mary Warren, Mercy Lewis**

Divide the characters from the chart into the following two groups. Place a star by any character who later switches to the other belief.

THOSE WHO BELIEVE WITCHCRAFT IS TO BLAME

**Reverend Parris**

**Ann Putnam**

**Thomas Putnam**

**Reverend Hale\***

**Danforth**

**Marshal Herrick\***

THOSE WHO BELIEVE THE GIRLS ARE LYING

**John Proctor**

**Rebecca Nurse**

**Elizabeth Proctor**

**Giles Corey**

List the characters from the chart who are dead by the end of the play: **John Proctor, Giles Corey, Rebecca Nurse**