

Name:

Hour:

# Theme in *The Crucible*

**Directions:** You will combine your understanding of *The Crucible* with your knowledge of identifying and writing about themes by: brainstorming with a classmate, completing a graphic organizer, and writing a thematic paragraph

## Part 1: Brainstorm

Make a list of some of the topics/ideas/motif/symbols/characters we have discussed throughout the play. Consider: which characters change from beginning to end? what images or phrases appear again and again? What conflicts exist? What social issues are characters grappling with?

**Turn and talk to a classmate. Exchange three points you wrote down**

**From either the list you generated or an idea a classmate gave you, write down one idea you think you could write more about**

## Part 1A: Generating a Theme

Now that you have an idea, let's work on turning it into a theme. Remember, a theme should:

- be the overall message of the story
- be some sort of insight or universal truth
- be specific and focus on the story as a whole

**Using your idea from the first page, write a theme for *The Crucible*.**

*(Hint: use one of the sentence stems from our notes to help!)*

## Part 2: Finding Evidence for Theme

Now that you have a theme, you're going to trace its development across the text. Identify how the theme appears in act I, II, III, and IV. Go through your class notes and the text. You might use: specific quotations, stage directions, playwright notes, or paraphrases.

**Act I**

**Act II**

**Act III**

**Act IV**

