

**THE TASK**: You will be writing a response to literature essay detailing how fear contributes to mass hysteria through the examination of yourself and two characters from Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible.*

**WHY:** You will be completing this assignment to work towards mastery of the California Common Core Standards for English Language Arts in addition to developing your critical thinking, writing, reflective, and analytical skills.

**DUE DATE:** Your essay will be due in MLA Format on : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To Turnitin.com.

**HOW:** You will be completing an outline prior to writing the essay as well as deconstructing a sample essay that models the assignment. A rubric will be attached to show you how your essay will be evaluated.

*THE OUTLINE*

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| Paragraph 1: *In this paragraph, you will set up the lead-in, thesis, and organizational statement.*  LEAD-IN: **Throughout history, fear has been an affective form of control. From WWII Germany and the South Pacific to McCarthyism in the United States in the 1950’s, fear has been the driving force behind mass hysteria.**  BACKGROUND ON *THE CRUCIBLE:* **Arthur Miller’s play *The Crucible* tells the story of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .*  THESIS:**The two characters of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ demonstrate how fear inspires out-of-character behavior and leads to extreme consequences. Like these two characters, I also have acted out of characters due to extreme fear and have been made to suffer the aftermath of my actions.**  WRAP-UP SENTENCE: **Therefore, literature and life reflect the motivations and consequences of actions motivated by fear.** |

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| Paragraph 2: *Explain how one character from* The Crucible *lets fear inspire his/her actions. Make sure to analyze the reasoning behind the fear and the consequences of that fear.*  TOPIC SENTENCE: **Firstly, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ demonstrates how extreme fear motivates his/her behaviors**.  BACKGROUND: *In 1-2 sentences, give any set up information necessary to give the reader an understanding and context of what’s going on in the text before you drop in your evidence.*  EVIDENCE: *Embed a quote that shows how your chosen character reflects fear in his or her actions.*  COMMENTARY: *In a minimum of two sentences, analyze what happened in the quote, why that character made that choice (motivation), and what the consequences were of that decision/action/quote.*  WRAP UP-SENTENCE:  *Tie everything back to the topic sentence of the paragraph and thesis. This may be already be included in your commentary sentences.* |

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| Paragraph 3: *Explain how your second character from* The Crucible *lets fear inspire his/her actions. Make sure to analyze the reasoning behind the fear and the consequences of that fear.*  TOPIC SENTENCE: **Secondly, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ demonstrates how extreme fear motivates his/her behaviors**.  BACKGROUND: *In 1-2 sentences, give any set up information necessary to give the reader an understanding and context of what’s going on in the text before you drop in your evidence.*  EVIDENCE: *Embed a quote that shows how your chosen character reflects fear in his or her actions.*  COMMENTARY: *In a minimum of two sentences, analyze what happened in the quote, why that character made that choice (motivation), and what the consequences were of that decision/action/quote.*  WRAP UP-SENTENCE:  *Tie everything back to the topic sentence of the paragraph and thesis. This may be already be included in your commentary sentences.* |

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| Paragraph 4: *In this paragraph, you will detail and experience either SIMILAR or DIFFERENT to the characters you discussed in the previous paragraphs.*  TOPIC SENTENCE: **Lastly, I have allowed extreme fear to inspire my actions and behaviors.**  BACKGROUND/EVIDENCE: *Describe a time when you allowed fear to inspire your actions. Give the reader the details leading up to the event including what motivated you to act the way you did. Then describe the event, and end with the consequences of your actions/decision.*  RELATE TO CHARACTERS: *Relate your experience back to the characters from* THE CRUCIBLE by comparing and contrasting motivations and consequences.  WRAP UP-SENTENCE:  *Tie everything back to the topic sentence of the paragraph and thesis. This may be already be included in your commentary sentences.* |

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| Paragraph 5: *This will be your conclusion paragraph that will look much like your first paragraph..*  TOPIC SENTENCE: **Literature and life show how fear may inspire decisions and actions deemed “out-of-character”.**  RECAP: *Refresh the reader on the two characters you chose to demonstrate actions inspired by fear. Remember to recap what inspired that fear and what the consequences were of that character’s actions. End with your personal example you used from paragraph 4.*  EXAMPLE 1: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible***  EXAMPLE 2: **Similarly, the character \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ also allowed fear to inspire his/her actions;**  EXAMPLE 3: **Lastly, I allowed fear to consume me and in turn motivate my actions when**  LEAD-OUT: **Like literature and life, history also reflects the results of fear contributing to mass hysteria as evidenced by real world events of the Salem witch trials which resulte in the wrongful deaths of 20 individuals in 1692/1693.**  EXPLANATION:  CONCLUSION/CLINCHER: |

HOW TO CITE YOUR QUOTES:

*Collecting evidence can be very difficult. However, below you will find a few examples of how to correctly cite your quotes using various formats and punctuation.*

Motivated by the fear of the repercussions of being caught, Abigail threatens the other girls: “Let either of you breathe a word, or the edge of a word about other things, and I will come to you in the black of some terrible night and I will bring a pointy reckoning that will shudder you” (Miller 1138).

“Let either of you breath a word or the edge of a word about other things,” Abigail threatens, “and I will come to you in the black of some terrible night, and I will bring a pointy reckoning that will shudder you” (Miller 1138).

Abigail scares the other girls into submission when she states that she will “come [to you] in the black of some terrible night” and hurt them with a “pointy reckoning” (Miller 1138).