

Letter to a Puritan

Please write a letter to one of the characters in *The Crucible* about the personal decisions he or she makes in that play. Give advice on how he or she should have acted, or express your admiration for the character's actions.

This letter should be at least 200 words long, and it should refer to at least one specific thing that the character says (which means you'll need to quote what the character says, and explain the circumstances in which it was said).

As you think about which character you will choose, consider these statements you've already responded to. They may help you choose a character and decide what you write about:

- * **The difference between right and wrong is always clear.**
- * **It is your duty to "tell on" people who have committed a crime.**
- * **The best place to determine guilt is in a court.**
- * **People are innocent until proven guilty.**
- * **You should forgive those who've hurt you in the past.**
- * **I would confess to a crime I did not commit.**
- * **I would rather go with the crowd and be accepted than go against it and be rejected.**
- * **I would rather die for what I believe than lie and save my life.**

Feel free to be critical, but don't be abusive.

Please see rubric on the next page for scoring details!

Rubric for Letter to a *Crucible* Character

Exceeds (Writing)

IDEAS & CONTENT

___ I referred to a specific thing my character said, and I explained the situation in which that thing was said.

___ I also referred to other specific things my character said or did in the play.

ORGANIZATION

___ The letter starts, Dear (character's name).

___ The middle of the letter is organized and makes sense.

___ The letter ends with advice for the character that relates to the specific details I shared earlier on in the letter.

___ Transitions between sentences and paragraphs are very smooth.

VOICE

___ I have written this letter so that it would make this character want to follow my advice.

Exceeds (Mechanics, Usage, Grammar, Spelling)

___ Writing shows very few errors in MUGS (two or fewer a page).

___ Quote is embedded smoothly.

___ Tone is appropriate.

Meets:

Writing – One or two bulleted elements are slightly deficient.

MUGS – Up to a few minor errors per page.

Partially Meets:

Writing – One or two bulleted elements are seriously deficient, or two or more are somewhat deficient.

MUGS – Surface errors distract from what the writing has to say.

Doesn't Meet:

Writing – One or more bulleted elements are absent, or more than three are seriously deficient.

MUGS – Surface errors make figuring out what the writing says difficult.