Reading Assignment 1 Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. But we never conjured spirits.

2. There is a faction that is sworn to drive me from my pulpit. Do you understand that?

3. Abominations are done in the forest--

4. But Betty collapses in her hands and lies inert on the bed.

5. He need not have been a partisan of any faction in the town, but there is evidence to suggest that he had a sharp and biting way with hypocrites.

6. In Proctor's presence a fool felt his foolishness instantly -- and a Proctor is always marked for calumny therefore.

7. That is a notorious sign of witchcraft afoot, Goody Nurse, a prodigious sign!

8. It's somewhat true; there are many that quail to bring their children--

9. Why, we are surely gone wild this year. What anarchy is this?
Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

__ 1. conjured  A. to lose courage; decline; fail; give way
__ 2. faction  B. unable to move or act
__ 3. abominations  C. summoned by oath or spell
__ 4. inert  D. false statements knowingly made to injure someone
__ 5. hypocrites  E. small group, usually contentious, within a larger group
__ 6. partisan  F. people who say they believe one way, but whose actions show they believe another
__ 7. calumny  G. political disorder and confusion
__ 8. prodigious  H. things that elicit great dislike or abhorrence
__ 9. quail  I. extraordinary; marvelous
__ 10. anarchy  J. militant supporter of a party, cause, faction or idea
VOCABULARY - The Crucible

Reading Assignment 2  Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. This is a beloved errand for him; on being called here to ascertain witchcraft he felt the pride of the specialist whose unique knowledge has at least been publicly called for.

2. Evidently we are not quite certain even now whether diabolism is holy and not to be scoffed at.

3. And it is no accident that we should be so bemused.

4. . . . he is called up and damned not only by our social antagonists but by our own side, whatever it may be.

5. I have no doubt that people were communing with, and even worshiping, the Devil in Salem, and if the whole truth could be known in this case, as it is in others, we should discover a regular and conventionalized propitiation of the dark spirit.

6. How could it be the Devil? Why would he choose my house to strike? We have all manner of licentious people right here in the village!

7. You cannot evade me, Abigail. Did your cousin drink any of the brew in that kettle?

8. On their ecstatic cries, the curtain falls.
Crucible Reading Assignment 2 Vocabulary Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. If there are words for which you cannot figure out the definition by contextual clues and by process of elimination, look them up in a dictionary.

11. ascertain  A. appeasement
12. diabolism  B. in a state of exalted delight
13. bemused  C. find out; detect
14. antagonists  D. having no regard for accepted rules or standards
15. propitiation  E. witchcraft; sorcery
16. licentious  F. escape or avoid by cleverness or deceit
17. evade  G. confused
18. ecstatic  H. adversaries; opponents
READING ASSIGNMENT 3  Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. Proctor, holding back a full condemnation of her: It is a fault, it is a fault, Elizabeth--you're the mistress here, not Mary Warren.

2. I am only wondering how I may prove what she told me, Elizabeth. If the girl's a saint now, I think it is not easy to prove she's fraud, and the town gone so silly.

3. Her strangeness throws him off, and her evident pallor and weakness.

4. Elizabeth, perplexed, looking at the doll: Why, thank you, it's a fair poppet.

5. Mary Warren, with an indignant edge: She tried to kill me many times, Goody Proctor!

6. Aye, but then Judge Hawthorne say, "Recite for us your commandments!"--leaning avidly toward them--and all of the ten she could not say a single one.

7. I only hope you'll not be so sarcastical no more. . . . I--I would have you speak civilly to me, from this out.

8. Woman, am I so base? Do you truly think me base?
**Crucible Reading Assignment 3 Vocabulary Continued**

**Part II: Determining the Meaning**

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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<tr>
<td>19. condemnation</td>
<td>A. bewildered; puzzled; confused</td>
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<td>20. fraud</td>
<td>B. expressing mocking or contemptuous remarks</td>
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<td>21. pallor</td>
<td>C. severe reproof; strong censure</td>
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<td>22. perplexed</td>
<td>D. having low moral standards; contemptible; inferior</td>
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<td>23. indignant</td>
<td>E. enthusiastically</td>
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<td>24. avidly</td>
<td>F. deliberate deception for unfair or unlawful gains</td>
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<td>25. sarcastical</td>
<td>G. extreme paleness</td>
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<td>26. base</td>
<td>H. filled with an anger aroused by something unjust or unworthy</td>
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VOCABULARY - The Crucible

Reading Assignment 4  Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. Believe me, Mr. Nurse, if Rebecca Nurse be tainted, then nothing's left to stop the whole green world from burning.

2. Cheever, ineptly reaching toward Elizabeth . . .

3. I had my doubts, Proctor, I had my doubts, but here's calamity. To Hale, showing the needle: You see it, sir, it is a needle!

4. Were there murder done, perhaps, and never brought to light? Abomination? Some secret blasphemy that stinks to Heaven? Think on cause, man, and let you help me to discover it.

5. Proctor, moving menacingly toward her: You will tell the court how that poppet came here and who stuck the needle in.

6. Abby'll charge lechery on you, Mr. Proctor!

7. It is a providence, and no great change; we are only what we always were, but naked now.
Crucible Reading Assignment 4 Vocabulary Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

___ 27. tainted  A. disaster
___ 28. ineptly   B. promiscuity
___ 29. calamity  C. having a moral defect; infected
___ 30. blasphemy D. awkwardly
___ 31. menacingly E. work of divine direction
___ 32. lechery   F. an irreverent or impious act or utterance
___ 33. providence G. threateningly
Reading Assignment 5

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. How do you dare come roarin’ into this court! Are you gone daft, Corey?

2. Giles Corey, sir, and a more contentious--

3. And how do you imagine to help her cause with such contemptuous riot? Now be gone.


5. But if he hide in anonymity I must know why. Now sir, the government and central church demand of you the name of him who reported Mr. Thomas Putnam a common murderer.

6. This is a court of law, Mister. I'll have no effrontery here!

7. . . . I dare not take a life without there be a proof so immaculate no slightest qualm of conscience may doubt it.
Crucible Reading Assignment 5 Vocabulary Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning
Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

___ 34. daft A. quarrelsome
___ 35. contentious B. audacity; insulting boldness
___ 36. contemptuous C. a sensation of misgiving or uneasiness
___ 37. audible D. crazy; foolish; stupid
___ 38. anonymity E. able to be heard
___ 39. effrontery F. scornful; disdainful
___ 40. qualm G. secrecy; having an unknown or unacknowledged name
VOCABULARY - *The Crucible*

Reading Assignment 6  Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean.

1. In which she swears that she never saw familiar spirits, apparitions, nor any *manifest* of the Devil.

2. He charges *contemplation* of murder.

3. She glances at Abigail, who is staring down at her *remorselessly*.

4. That were *pretense*, sir.

5. She is *transfixed*--with all the girls, she is whimpering open-mouthed, agape at the ceiling.

6. Will you confess yourself befouled with Hell, or do you keep that black *allegiance* yet?

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

___ 41. manifest  
___ 42. remorselessly  
___ 43. contemplation  
___ 44. pretense  
___ 45. transfixed  
___ 46. allegiance

A. the act of pretending  
B. loyalty  
C. something apparent to the sight or understanding  
D. thoughtful observation or meditation  
E. mercilessly; having no pity or compassion  
F. rendered motionless with terror, amazement or awe
VOCABULARY - *The Crucible*

**Reading Assignment 7  Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. Now hear me, and *beguile* yourselves no more.

2. . . . *reprieve* or pardon must cast doubt upon the guilt of them that died till now.

3. If retaliation is your fear, know this--I should hang ten thousand that dared to rise against the law, and an ocean of salt tears could not melt the resolution of the *statutes*.

4. Is he yet *adamant*?

5. Giles is dead. *He looks at her incredulously*.

6. He would not answer aye or nay to his *indictment*; for if he denied the charge they's hang him surely, and auction out his property. So he stand mute, and died Christian under the law.

7. I have confessed myself! Is there no good *penitence* but it be public?
**Crucible** Reading Assignment 7 Vocabulary Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

__ 47. beguile ____ 48. reprieve ____ 49. statutes ____ 50. adamant ____ 51. incredulously ____ 52. indictment ____ 53. penitence

A. statement of criminal charges  
B. a law, decree or edict  
C. performing of penance  
D. disbelievingly  
E. postponement of punishment  
F. firm in purpose or opinion; unyielding  
G. delude; cheat; divert