

The Crucible WebQuest

Assigned: Monday, October 1, 2012

Due: Tuesday, October 2, 2012

The *Salem Society* was founded in the USA in 1888, by 33 men interested in "organizing a society for the increase and diffusion of factual knowledge. Since then, this organization has added a variety of persons to help them accomplish their goal. Recently, you and your group members were contacted by the society and asked to take jobs as researchers for the *Salem Society* magazine. Having decided to accept this employment, you have just been assigned to work together on the magazine's expose for next month's edition – The Crucible.

Task: Both the Salem Witch Trials and the McCarthy Hearings are embarrassing past events in American History. However, there are many misconceptions about the trails, and not a lot is known about Senator McCarthy and his men. In groups of 2-3, your job will be to research the Salem Witch Trials and McCarthyism through this WebQuest answering the following questions:

The Salem Witch Trials

1. List those executed (how many?).
2. Who was the judge who presided over the trials?
3. Who was the pastor of the local church as the trials began?
4. Who was the pastor's slave, and where did she come from? What is her religious background?
5. What was the status of Elizabeth Proctor?
6. When did the trials take place? And where (cities)?
7. What were the different forms of punishment used (if found guilty of witchcraft) or coercion (methods to force people to confess themselves or accuse another) used during the trails?
8. Who put an end to the trials? Why?
9. What did the state of Massachusetts do for the survivors of those who were hanged?
10. What was the importance of land during this time and how would this have fueled a desire for your neighbor to be found a witch?

McCarthyism and *The Crucible*

1. Who was Senator McCarthy?
2. What is the Second Red Scare?
3. Which years make up the span known as the McCarthy Era? Why was it named after him?
4. What is McCarthyism?
5. What is Communism?
6. How does the term “blacklisting” apply to this time?
7. Who were the main subjects of these aggressive interrogations?
8. What were the different forms of punishment used (if found guilty of being a Communist) or coercion (methods to force people to confess themselves or accuse another) used during the time?
9. Describe the aftermath of the McCarthy era
10. What inspired Arthur Miller to write the play, *The Crucible*?