

Western Cape  
Government

Education

# Grade 12 Literature Setwork

**NSC and SC Examination**

**Question Papers and Memoranda**

(Marking Guidelines)

## English Home Language: Drama – *The Crucible*



**basic education**

Department:  
Education  
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**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

The manner in which Salem views its women contributes to the tragedy that unfolds.

Critically assess the validity of this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

TITUBA	( <i>already taking a step backward</i> ): My Betty be hearty soon?	
PARRIS	Out of here!	
TITUBA	( <i>backing to the door</i> ): My Betty not goin' die ...	
PARRIS	( <i>scrambling to his feet in a fury</i> ): Out of my sight! ( <i>She is gone.</i> ) Out of my – ( <i>He is overcome with sobs. He clamps his teeth against them and closes the door and leans against it, exhausted.</i> ) Oh, my God! God help me! ( <i>Quaking with fear, mumbling to himself through his sobs, he goes to the bed and gently takes Betty's hand.</i> ) Betty. Child. Dear child. Will you wake, will you open up your eyes! Betty, little one ...	5
	<i>He is bending to kneel again when his niece, ABIGAIL WILLIAMS, seventeen, enters – a strikingly beautiful girl, an orphan, with an endless capacity for dissembling. Now she is all worry and apprehension and propriety.</i>	10
ABIGAIL	Uncle? ( <i>He looks to her.</i> ) Susanna Walcott's here from Doctor Griggs.	
	...	
SUSANNA	Aye, sir, he have been searchin' his books since he left you, sir. But he bid me tell you, that you might look to unnatural things for the cause of it.	15
PARRIS	( <i>his eyes going wide</i> ): No – no. There be no unnatural cause here. Tell him I have sent for Reverend Hale of Beverly, and Mr Hale will surely confirm that. Let him look to medicine and put out all thought of unnatural causes here. There be none.	20
SUSANNA	Aye, sir. He bid me tell you. ( <i>She turns to go.</i> )	
ABIGAIL	Speak nothin' of it in the village, Susanna.	
PARRIS	Go directly home and speak nothing of unnatural causes.	
SUSANNA	Aye, sir. I pray for her. ( <i>She goes out.</i> )	25
ABIGAIL	Uncle, the rumour of witchcraft is all about; I think you'd best go down and deny it yourself. The parlour's packed with people, sir.	

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Refer to the stage direction in line 1: '*(already taking a step backward)*'.  
Explain what prompts Tituba's behaviour here. (3)
- 15.2 Refer to line 18: 'There be no unnatural cause here.'  
Account for Parris's contradiction of this statement when he later supports the witchcraft allegations. (3)
- 15.3 Refer to lines 11–12: '*with an endless capacity for dissembling.*'  
Discuss the accuracy of this description of Abigail. (3)
- 15.4 Based on your understanding of the nature of Salem society, discuss the reasons for 'the rumour of witchcraft' (line 26) spreading so quickly. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT J**

DANFORTH	Who is this man?	
FRANCIS	Francis Nurse, Your Excellency.	
HALE	His wife's Rebecca that were condemned this morning.	
DANFORTH	Indeed! I am amazed to find you in such uproar. I have only good report of your character, Mr Nurse.	5
HATHORNE	I think they must both be arrested in contempt, sir.	
DANFORTH	(to Francis): Let you write your plea, and in due time I will –	
FRANCIS	Excellency, we have proof for your eyes; God forbid you shut them to it. The girls, sir, the girls are frauds.	
DANFORTH	What's that?	10
FRANCIS	We have proof of it, sir. They are all deceiving you. DANFORTH is shocked, but studying Francis.	
HATHORNE	This is contempt, sir, contempt!	
DANFORTH	Peace, Judge Hathorne. Do you know who I am, Mr Nurse?	
FRANCIS	I surely do, sir, and I think you must be a wise judge to be what you are.	15
DANFORTH	And do you know that near to four hundred are in the jails from Marblehead to Lynn, and upon my signature?	
FRANCIS	I –	
DANFORTH	And seventy-two condemned to hang by that signature?	20
FRANCIS	Excellency, I never thought to say it to such a weighty judge, but you are deceived.	

[Act 3]

- 15.5 Place this extract in context. (3)
- 15.6 Refer to line 10: 'What's that?'  
If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Pay specific attention to body language and tone. Motivate your instructions. (3)

- 15.7 Refer to line 3: 'His wife's Rebecca that were condemned this morning.'
- Using this line as a starting point, discuss how Rebecca Nurse's execution influences the villagers' changing perception of the court. (3)
- 15.8 Danforth's refusal to listen to the truth is a sign of cowardice.
- Critically comment on the extent to which you agree with this statement. (4)  
**[25]**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 25 for the rubric to assess this question.

**VALID**

- Salem is a patriarchal society which views its women as subordinate and expects them to submit to the authority of male figures. Their oppression leads to the tragic persecution of innocent people.
- The Puritans believe that women are the source of original sin and are more susceptible to evil influences. Thus the majority of the accused are women.
- Women are subject to the strict rules of their society. There are very few opportunities for relaxation and entertainment. These restrictions cause the girls to rebel by sneaking off to dance in the forest.
- It is not only the girls, led by Abigail, who rebel against the conformity imposed on them by their society. Sarah Good and Bridget Bishop defy the stereotypes of women by falling pregnant out of wedlock and living with men without being married. This defiance makes them targets of those who desire conformity.
- The title, 'Good Wife', clearly conveys women's subservient status in society.
- Unmarried women have even less authority and even lower status than their married counterparts do. When they are afforded some power and respect by the courts, the girls are determined to maintain these, regardless of the costs/consequences.
- When Hale suggests that the village will be indebted to them for identifying witches, the girls realise that they have power over the villagers and can manipulate the situation in their favour.
- The girls use the stereotype of being pure, passive and innocent to their advantage. The judges do not see them as having any ulterior motives for their naming of witches.
- The witch trials give the girls an opportunity to settle grievances they hold against those who have slighted them in the past. They relish their new-found power.
- The girls' rise to power even sees them wielding their authority over the judges. Abigail threatens Danforth when she feels that her new-found status is in jeopardy.
- The haste with which men threaten to whip the girls and women who live in their homes shows that men believe that they are entitled to dominate and discipline women. This leads to resentment and a desire for revenge.
- Proctor's dismissive attitude toward Abigail, together with her realisation that she holds sexual power over him, feeds her desire for revenge on Elizabeth.
- Abigail also realises that she has power over the weaker girls and she is able to manipulate them into submitting to her will. Their compliance adds weight to the accusations made against respected members of the community.
- Elizabeth is a compliant wife who accepts the authority of men, although her reluctance to forgive Proctor for his affair and his desire to 'please her' do suggest that women do have some control over their men.

[A cogent 'Invalid' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]  
[Credit valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 As a slave, Tituba is used to being blamed for any problems that occur in the Parris home. Her backing away is an indication of her submission and subservience. She is frightened of getting into trouble and is trying to keep out of harm's way.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.2 Parris initially denies the existence of witchcraft as he does not want his home and ministry to be linked to any such associations. However, when Reverend Hale is convinced that there is witchcraft in Salem, Parris, like the girls, realises that he can use the accusations to his advantage by silencing his critics ('enemies'), strengthening his position as minister and preserving his reputation.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.3 Throughout the play, Abigail is shown to be skilled at the art of deception. She pretends to be innocent, thus misleading Parris, Hale and the judges into believing her accusations of witchcraft. Her play-acting is instrumental in getting Elizabeth and Proctor arrested, and in intimidating the other girls into following her lead.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.4 Salem is a small, strictly controlled society where gossip and rumour are likely to abound; there is very little freedom and independent thinking. There is a strong belief in the existence of witches in a Puritan community. People are superstitious of anything they do not understand and cannot explain. They are suspicious and mistrusting of their neighbours. As a result, they will refer to the supernatural to explain what they cannot, and accuse their neighbours of being witches as a means of exacting vengeance for perceived offences.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.5 Rebecca Nurse has been accused of the 'supernatural murder of Goody Putnam's babies'. Her husband, together with Giles Corey and John Proctor, approach the court, in an attempt to defend their wives. They have depositions that will testify to their wives' good names and evidence to prove the girls have been lying to the court. They are hoping to convince the courts that injustice has taken place and that their wives should be set free.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 The actor might put his hands on his hips or put his hand to his chin as he contemplates the accusation that has just been made. His eyes might narrow and he might lean heavily on the table in front of him as he leans aggressively toward Francis Nurse. Danforth does not want to accept that the girls' accusations are false because it would raise doubts about the justice of the courts. His tone might be of disbelief/incredulity/suspicion as he is questioning the validity of what he has just been told.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a justification.]

(3)

- 15.7 Initially the villagers view the courts as necessary to rid their society of evil and restore order. However, the execution of Rebecca Nurse, who is highly respected and who goes to the gallows as a 'saint', causes an outcry among the villagers. Rebecca's 'murder' calls the credibility of the courts into question. People believe in her innocence and praise her righteousness in refusing to give a false confession, thus saving her soul. It is because of the honour and integrity of people like Rebecca Nurse, that the wickedness and injustice are brought to an end.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.]

(3)

- 15.8 AGREE

Danforth's refusal to admit that the courts might have been wrong is a sign of cowardice because he is afraid of admitting that he has been manipulated and has condemned innocent people. He is unwilling to face and accept the damage that this will cause to his reputation, which needs to be maintained and honoured at all costs. Danforth does not have the courage to admit his short-comings and failings, and demands respect and unquestioning loyalty to the court. He is relentless and uncompromising in his desire to see the court's authority upheld and thus his status maintained. Danforth's spinelessness does not allow him to display compassion for or understanding of the plight of the innocent; he is thus unwilling to acknowledge his weakness and his error in judgement.

**OR**

DISAGREE

Candidates might argue that, rather than cowardice, it is Danforth's obstinacy and his concern about his reputation which lies at the heart of his refusal to listen to the truth.

[Award 4 marks for any three ideas well discussed OR four ideas.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C:**  
**GRAND TOTAL:**

**25**  
**80**



**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 24 (essay question) OR QUESTION 25 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 24: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

John Proctor's behaviour throughout the play has unintended consequences.

Critically discuss the extent to which you agree with the above statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 25: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT O**

PARRIS	Now, look you, Goody Putnam, she never – ( <i>Enter THOMAS PUTNAM, a well-to-do, hard-handed landowner, near fifty.</i> ) Oh, good morning, Mr Putnam.	
PUTNAM	It is a providence the thing is out now! It is a providence. ( <i>He goes directly to the bed.</i> )	5
PARRIS	What's out, sir, what's – ?	
	MRS PUTNAM <i>goes to the bed.</i>	
PUTNAM	( <i>looking down at Betty</i> ): Why, her eyes is closed! Look you, Ann.	
MRS PUTNAM	Why, that's strange. ( <i>To Parris.</i> ) Ours is open.	
PARRIS	( <i>shocked</i> ): Your Ruth is sick?	10
MRS PUTNAM	( <i>with vicious certainty</i> ): I'd not call it sick; the Devil's touch is heavier than sick. It's death, y'know, it's death drivin' into them, forked and hoofed.	
PARRIS	Oh, pray not! Why, how does Ruth ail?	
MRS PUTNAM	She ails as she must – she never waked this morning, but her eyes open and she walks, and hears naught, sees naught, and cannot eat. Her soul is taken, surely.	15
	PARRIS <i>is struck.</i>	
PUTNAM	( <i>as though for further details</i> ): They say you've sent for Reverend Hale of Beverly?	20
PARRIS	( <i>with dwindling conviction now</i> ): A precaution only. He has much experience in all demonic arts, and I –	
MRS PUTNAM	He has indeed; and found a witch in Beverly last year, and let you remember that.	
PARRIS	Now, Goody Ann, they only thought that were a witch, and I am certain there be no element of witchcraft here.	25
PUTNAM	No witchcraft! Now look you, Mr Parris –	
PARRIS	Thomas, Thomas, I pray you, leap not to witchcraft. I know that you – you least of all, Thomas, would ever wish so disastrous a charge laid upon me. We cannot leap to witchcraft. They will howl me out of Salem for such corruption in my house.	30

[Act 1]



- 25.1 Place the extract in context. (3)
- 25.2 Explain Parris's reasons for sending for Reverend Hale of Beverly. (3)
- 25.3 Based on your knowledge of the play as a whole, discuss the Putnams' motives for supporting the witch hunt. (3)
- 25.4 Refer to lines 30–31: 'They will howl me out of Salem'.  
Discuss whether Parris's reaction is typical of him. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT P**

MARY	I made a gift for you today, Goody Proctor. I had to sit long hours in a chair, and passed the time with sewing.	
ELIZABETH	<i>(perplexed, looking at the doll)</i> : Why, thank you, it's a fair poppet.	
MARY	<i>(with a trembling, decayed voice)</i> : We must all love each other now, Goody Proctor.	5
ELIZABETH	<i>(amazed at her strangeness)</i> : Aye, indeed we must.	
MARY	<i>(glancing at the room)</i> : I'll get up early in the morning and clean the house. I must sleep now. <i>(She turns and starts off.)</i>	
PROCTOR	Mary. <i>(She halts.)</i>	
	Is it true? There be fourteen women arrested?	10
MARY	No, sir. There be thirty-nine now – <i>(She suddenly breaks off and sobs and sits down, exhausted.)</i>	
ELIZABETH	Why, she's weepin'! What ails you, child?	
MARY	Goody Osburn – will hang!	
	<i>There is a shocked pause, while she sobs.</i>	15
PROCTOR	Hang! <i>(He calls into her face.)</i> Hang, y'say?	
MARY	<i>(through her weeping)</i> : Aye.	
PROCTOR	The Deputy Governor will permit it?	
MARY	He sentenced her. He must. <i>(To ameliorate it.)</i> But not Sarah Good. For Sarah Good confessed, y'see.	20
PROCTOR	Confessed! To what?	
MARY	That she – <i>(in horror at the memory)</i> – she sometimes made a compact with Lucifer, and wrote her name in his black book.	
	...	
PROCTOR	But – surely you know what a jabberer she is. Did you tell them that?	
MARY	Mr Proctor, in open court she near to choked us all to death.	25
PROCTOR	How, choked you?	
MARY	She sent her spirit out.	

[Act 2]

- 25.5 Refer to line 1: 'I made a gift for you today'.  
Explain the significance of Mary's gift. (3)
- 25.6 Refer to lines 4–5: 'We must all love each other now, Goody Proctor.'  
Discuss the irony of these words in the context of the play. (3)

- 25.7 Refer to line 16: 'Hang! (*He calls into her face.*) Hang, y'say?' and to line 18: 'The Deputy Governor will permit it?'

If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Pay specific attention to body language and tone. Motivate your instructions. (3)

- 25.8 Superstition plays a significant role in the tragedy of the play.

Do you agree with this statement? Justify your response. (4)

[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 24: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 37 for the rubric to assess this question.

Candidates might argue that, while Proctor might not have foreseen the consequences of many of his actions, there are some actions for which he intends the outcome.

- Proctor's attraction to Abigail and their subsequent affair have far-reaching consequences for him personally, as well as for the villagers of Salem.
- His affair with Abigail stirs her passionate nature and makes her aware of the hypocritical behaviour of people in Salem. Her subsequent behaviour is beyond his control.
- Proctor does not expect his rejection of Abigail to result in her desire for revenge. It is her drinking of blood to cast a spell against Elizabeth that prompts the rumours of witchcraft. The consequences of these allegations are dire as many innocent people are condemned as witches.
- Proctor's challenging of authority establishes him as a non-conformist and makes him an unwitting target of suspicion.
- Initially, Proctor does not take the rumours of witchcraft seriously and believes that the courts will be rational in their dismissal of the allegations. For this reason, he delays in sharing the information he has from Abigail that the girls were simply sporting in the forest. He does not foresee that this procrastination will result in the tragic events that follow.
- His attempt to protect his reputation also prevents him from revealing his infidelity. Had he done this, the court would have been aware of Abigail's less than innocent nature and they might have been more inclined to question her motives. When he does reveal the truth, this counts against him.
- It is only when Elizabeth and his friends' wives are threatened that Proctor commits himself to fighting the corruption of the court. This however, comes too late to prevent the tragic execution of many innocent people.
- Proctor is determined to be true to himself and protect his name. By standing up for justice, Proctor knowingly chooses death. He does not intend to expose the corruption of the court per se and certainly does not expect to be regarded as a hero.
- He willingly sacrifices his good name in order to protect his wife. Only through his public acknowledgement of the affair does Proctor regain his wife's trust and the respect of the villagers. His reputation is not tarnished as he has expected.
- Because of Proctor's refusal to comply with the court's demand that he sign his name to his confession and betray his friends, the villagers start questioning the authority of the court. This shift in attitude brings an end to the witch trials and to the theocratic system of government. Proctor does not anticipate that his actions will have such far-reaching consequences.

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[25]

**QUESTION 25: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL**

- 25.1 The girls have been discovered dancing in the forest by Reverend Parris. Mrs Putnam had sent Ruth to Tituba so that she can conjure the spirits of her dead siblings. This discovery has caused Betty and Ruth to behave in a manner for which there is no logical explanation and the village suspects that witchcraft is to blame.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 25.2 Parris wants Reverend Hale, who has a reputation for identifying witches, to investigate the charges of witchcraft. Hale's expertise will lend credibility to Parris's assertion that no witchcraft exists in Salem. He fears that these allegations might be used to remove him as minister.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 25.3 Mr and Mrs Putnam encourage Parris to look for evidence of witchcraft to explain the strange behaviour of their daughter. They realise that they can use the witch hunt to settle personal vendettas against people like the Nurses, and even Parris whose appointment as minister was not supported by Mr Putnam. Putnam also realises that he can gain financially from his neighbours' being accused of witchcraft.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 25.4 Parris is concerned that the villagers will use the rumours of witchcraft to remove him as minister of Salem. Throughout the play he worries that they have never accepted him or seen him as a worthy spiritual leader. He feels that his parishioners begrudge him what is rightfully his as minister. He is concerned that his position and reputation are under threat. However, Parris has a tendency to over-react as only some of the villagers disapprove of him.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 25.5 The poppet given to Elizabeth by Mary is later used as evidence to convict Elizabeth of witchcraft. Abigail accuses Elizabeth of sending out her spirit to stab her and when the poppet is found in the Proctor home with a needle stuck in its belly, the court is convinced that the accusation is true.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 25.6 Mary suggests that the villagers need to support one another in these trying times. However, the villagers turn on one another and use the witch trials as a means of achieving their personal vendettas./Candidates might refer to Mary's actions. Her gift might be regarded as a token of endearment but later she displays a lack of love for the Proctors when she accuses Proctor of being a witch. Candidates might also suggest that it is ironic that a gift given in 'love' is used as evidence against Elizabeth.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is well discussed.]

(3)

- 25.7 Proctor's eyes might widen at the news as he inclines towards Mary. He might gesture with outstretched hands to indicate his alarm at Danforth's decision. Proctor's tone might be shocked/disbelieving/incredulous. Proctor does not understand the irrationality of the witch hunt. He is dismayed that Danforth, instead of bringing reason to the witch trials and dismissing them as nonsensical, has validated them.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a justification.]

(3)

- 25.8 AGREE  
The villagers turn to superstition whenever something occurs for which there is no logical explanation. As Puritans, they have a firm belief in evil and the existence of witches and the devil. The church would have encouraged superstitions as a means of restricting people's freedom. The belief in superstition compromises the villagers' ability to think rationally about matters. Their ignorance makes them gullible and suspicious. When the girls' dancing in the forest with Tituba is exposed, it is easy for the villagers to believe that they have been bewitched. Good people, such as Rebecca, become victims of the superstitions held by people. This leads to the conviction and execution of many innocent people.

**OR**

DISAGREE

Candidates might argue that, while superstition is the catalyst for the accusations, there are other more significant factors, such as the need to protect one's reputation or the desire for revenge that contribute to the tragedy.

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[Award 4 marks for any three ideas well discussed OR any four distinct ideas.]

(4)

[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C:**

**25**

**GRAND TOTAL:**

**80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

John Proctor is responsible for his own tragic fate.

Assess the validity of this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

HALE	Now, Betty, dear, will you sit up? (PUTNAM <i>comes in closer, ready-handed</i> . HALE <i>sits Betty up, but she hangs limp in his hands</i> .) Hmmm. (He <i>observes her carefully</i> . The others <i>watch breathlessly</i> .) Can you hear me? I am John Hale, minister of Beverly. I have come to help you, dear. Do you remember my two little girls in Beverly? (She <i>does not stir in his hands</i> .)	5
PARRIS	( <i>in fright</i> ): How can it be the Devil? Why would he choose my house to strike? We have all manner of licentious people in the village!	
HALE	What victory would the Devil have to win a soul already bad? It is the best the Devil wants, and who is better than the minister?	10
GILES	That's deep, Mr Parris, deep, deep!	
PARRIS	( <i>with resolution now</i> ): Betty! Answer Mr Hale! Betty!	
	...	
HALE	( <i>grasping Abigail</i> ): Abigail, it may be your cousin is dying. Did you call the Devil last night?	
ABIGAIL	I never called him! Tituba, Tituba ...	15
PARRIS	( <i>blanched</i> ): She called the Devil?	
HALE	I should like to speak with Tituba.	
	...	
HALE	Did your cousin drink any of the brew in that kettle?	
ABIGAIL	She never drank it!	
HALE	Did you drink it?	20
ABIGAIL	No, Sir!	
HALE	Did Tituba ask you to drink it?	
ABIGAIL	She tried, but I refused.	
HALE	Why are you concealing? Have you sold yourself to Lucifer?	
ABIGAIL	I never sold myself! I'm a good girl! I'm a proper girl!	25

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Explain how Hale's treatment of Betty differs from Parris's treatment of her. (3)
- 15.2 Discuss Hale's contribution to the events that occur later in the play. (3)
- 15.3 Refer to line 22: 'Did Tituba ask you to drink it?'  
Discuss why Tituba becomes involved with the girls. (3)
- 15.4 Refer to line 25: 'I never sold myself! I'm a good girl! I'm a proper girl!'  
Comment on the irony of Abigail's statement. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT J**

PARRIS	Excellency, it profit nothing you should blame me. I cannot think they would run off except they fear to keep in Salem any more. ( <i>He is pleading.</i> )	
	...	
PARRIS HATHORNE	I tell you true, sir, I fear there will be riot here. Riot! Why at every execution I have seen naught but high satisfaction in the town.	5
PARRIS	Judge Hathorne – it were another sort that hanged till now. Rebecca Nurse is no Bridget that lived three year with Bishop before she married him. John Proctor is not Isaac Ward that drank his family to ruin. ( <i>To Danforth.</i> ) I would to God it were not so, Excellency, but these people have great weight yet in the town. Let Rebecca stand upon the gibbet and send up some righteous prayer, and I fear she'll wake a vengeance on you.	10
HATHORNE DANFORTH	Excellency, she is condemned a witch. The court have – ( <i>in deep concern, raising a hand to Hathorne</i> ): Pray you. ( <i>To Parris.</i> ) How do you propose, then?	15
PARRIS DANFORTH PARRIS	Excellency, I would postpone these hangin's for a time. There will be no postponement. Now Mr Hale's returned, there is hope, I think – for if he bring even one of these to God, that confession surely damns the others in the public eye, and none may doubt more that they are all linked to Hell. This way, unconfessed and claiming innocence, doubts are multiplied, many honest people will weep for them, and our good purpose is lost in their tears.	20

[Act 4]

- 15.5 Refer to line 14: 'Excellency, she is condemned a witch. The court have –'.  
Suggest reasons for Hathorne's reaction to Parris's statement. (3)



- 15.6 Refer to line 18: 'There will be no postponement.'
- If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Justify your instructions with reference to both body language and tone. (3)
- 15.7 Critically discuss the extent to which Parris's actions have contributed to the tragedy in Salem. (3)
- 15.8 Using this extract as a starting point, critically comment on the importance placed on a person's reputation in Salem. (4)
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

- John Proctor's guilt, his morally questionable actions and his desire to protect his name contribute to his tragic fate.
- Despite being a self-acknowledged sinner, Proctor is 'a good man'. His adultery is the catalyst for Abigail's jealousy. His rejection of her encourages her wrath and desire for revenge.
- Proctor sets high moral standards for himself but he considers himself a hypocrite because he deceives others by not revealing his adultery.
- Proctor conceals the fact that Abigail has admitted that the girls' actions in the forest 'were just sport'. He does this because he does not want to expose himself.
- His hesitation costs the village dearly as many innocent people – including his wife – are arrested and found guilty of witchcraft.
- Proctor realises that the only way to save his wife and the wives of his friends is to confess to adultery, thus discrediting Abigail and urging the court to see the truth of Abigail's manipulation of its proceedings.
- His individuality and defiance of the official value system contribute to his being viewed as a trouble-maker and the court's harsh treatment of him.
- Proctor battles with his conscience but ultimately chooses to remain true to himself. He desires to live but he is determined to maintain his honour and integrity. He dies refusing to compromise his sense of truth.
  
- Candidates might argue that Proctor is not entirely responsible for his fate. He was not to foresee the extent of Abigail's desire for him, or the extent of her vengeance.
- The girls and many of the other villagers realise that the witch trials can be used for their ulterior motives.
- The villagers also contribute to Proctor's fate by creating a climate of suspicion and restriction, and sanctioning the witch trials.
- The lack of justice offered by the courts results in the deaths of innocent people.

[Accept mixed/valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 Hale is kind and gentle toward Betty. He shows concern and compassion. Parris, by contrast, has scant concern for her well-being. He is more worried about the impact on his reputation.

[Award 3 marks only if both characters are discussed.] (3)

- 15.2 Hale's investigations encourage the girls to name those supposedly engaged in witchcraft. His leading questioning style gives the girls an idea of what sort of evidence the courts will find convincing. His enthusiasm when he thinks he has uncovered witchcraft blinds him and he loses his ability to be rational. However, when he realises that the girls are frauds, he attempts to stop the trials, first by appealing to Danforth and later by encouraging the condemned to lie to save their lives. His denouncing of the courts raises awareness among the villagers of the injustices that have been committed.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.3 The girls approach Tituba because they believe that, as a black woman from Barbados, she has knowledge of witchcraft. As a slave, Tituba has no power to refuse them. Tituba might see this as a way of integrating herself into the society and gaining some status for herself. This is a way of her asserting a level of authority that she would otherwise not have.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.4 Abigail's statement is ironic because she is neither good nor proper as she has had an affair with John Proctor. She can no longer be regarded as an innocent 'girl'. Also, she has behaved in other inappropriate ways such as laughing in church and dancing in the forest. Although Abigail says she has not 'sold' herself, she selfishly commits evil acts and so has, in effect, 'sold' herself to the devil.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is discussed.] (3)

- 15.5 Hathorne is uncompromising in his determination to see his form of justice meted out. He is not prepared to deviate from decisions taken by the court. He is afraid of losing credibility and having his reputation, and the reputation of the court, tarnished.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 The actor might bang his fist on the table or cross his arms. He might be authoritative and firm in his pronouncement. Danforth is determined to continue with the executions as he does not want the authority of the court to be challenged.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to body language and tone, and includes a justification.]

(3)

- 15.7 Parris initiates the fears about witchcraft by calling in Reverend Hale to investigate the reasons for the girls' illness. His failure to disclose the truth about the girls' activities in the forest contributes to a climate that is conducive to the girls' accusing people of witchcraft. This, together with his selfish concern for his reputation, leads to the outbreak of hysteria. Despite his doubts, he continues to support the trials. It is only when Abigail runs away and his life is threatened that he tries to persuade Danforth to re-examine his decisions.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.]

(3)

- 15.8 In this extract, Parris points out that because of the good reputation of people like Rebecca Nurse and John Proctor, the villagers might turn against the court if they are executed.

People's reputations are an indication of their characters and integrity, as well as how they are perceived in the village. In order to protect their reputations, individuals react differently. People like Parris and Abigail lie to protect their reputations. The court officials refuse to acknowledge the girls' deception because it would tarnish their reputations. Initially, Proctor does not disclose his adultery because he does not want his reputation ruined, but later, he stands for what is true. Like Proctor, Rebecca and Giles are prepared to lose their lives to protect the integrity of their names.

[Candidates may make reference to other examples.]

[Award 4 marks for three ideas well discussed OR four distinct ideas.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

The problem of making moral choices is a significant issue in the play.

Critically assess the validity of this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

PROCTOR	PROCTOR <i>eats, then looks up.</i> If the crop is good I'll buy George Jacob's heifer. How would that please you?	
ELIZABETH	Aye, it would.	
PROCTOR	( <i>with a grin</i> ): I mean to please you, Elizabeth.	5
ELIZABETH	( <i>it is hard to say</i> ): I know it, John. <i>He gets up, goes to her, kisses her. She receives it. With a certain disappointment, he returns to the table.</i>	
PROCTOR	( <i>as gently as he can</i> ): Cider?	
ELIZABETH	( <i>with a sense of reprimanding herself for having forgot</i> ): Aye! ( <i>She gets up and goes and pours a glass for him. He now arches his back.</i> )	10
	...	
ELIZABETH	Mary Warren's there today.	
PROCTOR	Why'd you let her? You heard me forbid her go to Salem any more!	
ELIZABETH	I couldn't stop her.	15
PROCTOR	( <i>holding back a full condemnation of her</i> ): It is a fault, it is a fault, Elizabeth – you're the mistress here, not Mary Warren.	
ELIZABETH	She frightened all my strength away.	
PROCTOR	How may that mouse frighten you, Elizabeth? You –	
ELIZABETH	It is a mouse no more. I forbid her go, and she raises up her chin like the daughter of a prince and says to me, 'I must go to Salem, Goody Proctor; I am an official of the court!'	20
PROCTOR	Court! What court?	
ELIZABETH	Aye, it is a proper court they have now. They've sent four judges out of Boston, she says, weighty magistrates of the General Court, and at the head sits the Deputy Governor of the Province.	25
PROCTOR	( <i>astonished</i> ): Why, she's mad.	
ELIZABETH	I would to God she were. There be fourteen people in the jail now, she says. (PROCTOR <i>simply looks at her, unable to grasp it.</i> ) And they'll be tried, and the court have power to hang them too, she says.	30

[Act 2]

- 15.1 Refer to line 5: 'I mean to please you, Elizabeth.'  
Account for Proctor's need to please his wife. (2)
- 15.2 Refer to lines 20–22: 'It is a mouse ... of the court!'  
Explain the changes that are observed in Mary Warren at this point in the play. (2)
- 15.3 What does this extract suggest about the current state of the Proctors' marriage? (2)
- 15.4 Refer to lines 23–29: 'Court! What Court? ... (*unable to grasp it.*)'  
By referring to both the stage directions and the dialogue, discuss John Proctor's attitude to the events taking place in Salem. (3)
- 15.5 Comment on the impact that the court trials have on the people of Salem. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT J**

PROCTOR	She never saw no spirits, sir.	
DANFORTH	( <i>with great alarm and surprise, to Mary</i> ): Never saw no spirits!	
	...	
PARRIS	They've come to overthrow the court, sir! This man is –	
DANFORTH	I pray you, Mr Parris. Do you know, Mr Proctor, that the entire contention of the state in these trials is that the voice of Heaven is speaking through the children?	5
PROCTOR	I know that, sir.	
DANFORTH	( <i>thinks, staring at Proctor, then turns to Mary Warren</i> ): And you, Mary Warren, how came you to cry out people for sending their spirits against you?	10
MARY	It were pretence, sir.	
DANFORTH	I cannot hear you.	
PROCTOR	It were pretence, she says.	
DANFORTH	Ah? And the other girls? Susanna Walcott, and – the others? They are also pretending?	15
MARY	Aye, sir.	
DANFORTH	( <i>wide-eyed</i> ): Indeed. ( <i>Pause. He is baffled by this. He turns to study Proctor's face.</i> )	
PARRIS	( <i>in a sweat</i> ): Excellency, you surely cannot think to let so vile a lie to spread in open court!	20
DANFORTH	Indeed not, but it strike hard upon me that she will dare come here with such a tale. Now, Mr Proctor, before I decide whether I shall hear you or not, it is my duty to tell you this. We burn a hot fire here; it melts down all concealment.	
PROCTOR	I know that, sir.	25
DANFORTH	Let me continue. I understand well, a husband's tenderness may drive him to extravagance in defence of a wife. Are you certain in your conscience, Mister, that your evidence is the truth?	

[Act 3]

- 15.6 Refer to lines 27–28: 'Are you certain in your conscience'.  
Discuss how Proctor's action later in the play offers an answer to Danforth's question. (3)
- 15.7 Explain the irony of Danforth's assertion that it is the 'voice of Heaven' (line 5) that is 'speaking through the children' (line 6). (3)
- 15.8 Refer to line 3: 'They've come to overthrow the court, sir! This man is –'.  
If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver this line? Justify your instructions with reference to both body language and tone. (3)
- 15.9 The nature of justice in Salem is questionable.  
Using this extract as a starting point and drawing on your knowledge of the play as a whole, critically comment on the validity of this statement. (4)
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**



**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 25 for the rubric to assess this question.

Characters find themselves in situations where they allow themselves to compromise their morality when it comes to the choices they make.

- Parris makes unethical choices based on his desire for self-preservation.
- Hale arrogantly believes in his mission to expose witchcraft. However, his supposed moral choices merely serve to enhance his reputation. His insistence on the presence of witchcraft and promise to those who are guilty that they can save themselves, lead to false confessions and accusations. His later decision to save the innocent is prompted by guilt. Ironically, he persuades them to make false confessions to save themselves.
- The villagers immorally exploit the paranoia to exact revenge and to satisfy their greed. They are indifferent to the suffering of innocent victims.
- Tituba's position as a slave forces her to be dishonest. Her accusations are based on fear and the promise of salvation.
- Abigail is driven by her desire for Proctor and hatred for Elizabeth. Her wickedness is morally reprehensible.
- The other girls are weak and succumb to Abigail's threats. They conspire to avoid punishment and to enjoy the status they are afforded by the trials.
- The judges believe they are upholding morality and the law. However, their allowing the fraudulent trials to continue is unethical. Their corrupt choices are based on their pride and determination to protect their reputations. Their unjust decisions result in the execution of innocents.
- Elizabeth is morally upright, but her unchristian refusal to forgive Proctor and her choice to lie to save him contribute to the tragedy.
- Despite being an honourable man, Proctor's decision to have an affair with Abigail has disastrous consequences as she exacts revenge when he ends the affair. He also chooses not to reveal the affair as he wants to protect his reputation. Later, he redeems himself when he is prepared to die without further tainting his name and condemning his soul. His decision supports that of people who refuse to save themselves by lying. Whatever the degree of nobility of his decision, that decision will have severe consequences for his family.
- Giles and Rebecca refuse to be intimidated, and die honourably.
- Mary Warren tries to act honourably. However, she is not strong enough to withstand the intimidation of the other girls.

[Consider valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 John Proctor betrayed his marriage vows by having an affair with Abigail Williams. His wife discovered the affair and has battled to forgive him for his infidelity. It is his guilt and his desire to make amends that make him want to do things that will please her and show his remorse.

[Award 2 marks for two ideas.] (2)

- 15.2 Initially, Mary Warren is weak and submissive. She is fearful and easily intimidated. She gains a modicum of courage, relishing the power and status afforded her, when the court is convened and the girls are called to testify.

[Award 2 marks for two ideas.] (2)

- 15.3 Elizabeth finds it hard to acknowledge her husband's attempts to repent and she is reluctant to trust him after his affair. Proctor's attempts at affection are not reciprocated and there is a coldness between them. Their relationship is strained.

[Award 2 marks for any two ideas.] (2)

- 15.4 Proctor is disbelieving and '*astonished*' when he hears that the court has been convened; he finds it hard to believe and is '*unable to grasp*' that the girls' accusations are being taken so seriously. He is aware that the events are based on fabrications.

[Award 3 marks only if stage directions and dialogue are referred to.] (3)

- 15.5 The villagers become fearful and suspicious. There is mistrust among them. The trials turn people against one another as the trials are used to gain revenge for past wrongdoings. People become increasingly irrational. The trials leave farms abandoned and children orphaned. Alternatively, the trials strengthen the resolve of characters like Proctor, Rebecca and Giles who prove to be people of integrity. The trials also have the effect of cementing relationships, such as that of Proctor and Elizabeth.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 Later in the play, Proctor publically confesses his adultery, revealing his desire to stand up for the truth. He also refuses to sign the confession because he feels it would be a betrayal of his friends and his conscience. He is prepared to die to preserve his good name and to ensure that his descendants are not burdened by a dishonourable legacy.

[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.7 The girls appear to be helping to root out evil in Salem by offering the names of so-called witches. However, the girls know that there are no witches in Salem and that the people they are accusing are innocent. The girls are, in fact, the perpetrators of evil and cannot be considered to represent 'heaven'.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is discussed.]

(3)

- 15.8 Parris might look anxious and frustrated/angry. He might stand with his hands on his hips and then point toward Proctor or he might have both arms outstretched in exasperation. His tone might be one of righteous indignation. He might also sound panic-stricken or defensive at this unwarranted interference by Proctor. He is concerned that if the court is 'overthrown', he will lose credibility and his reputation will be tarnished.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to body language and tone, and includes a justification.]

(3)

- 15.9 Justice implies an objective weighing up of evidence and fairness in sentencing. In this extract, Danforth displays incredulity that the girls' testimony might be 'pretence'. This shows that the court bases its decisions on the lies and false testimony of the girls and those villagers who subvert the system for their own ulterior motives. The judges do not interrogate the evidence or question its validity. Thus justice is radically undermined. The justice system has been corrupted.

[Candidates may make reference to other examples.]

[Award 4 marks for three ideas well discussed OR four distinct ideas.]

(4)

**[25]**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

Egotism is one of the centrally important issues in *The Crucible*.

Critically assess the validity of this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

MRS PUTNAM PARRIS	The psalm! The psalm! She cannot bear to hear the Lord's name! No, God forbid. Mercy, run to the doctor! Tell him what's happened here! (MERCY LEWIS <i>rushes out.</i> )	
MRS PUTNAM	Mark it for a sign, mark it!	
	REBECCA NURSE, <i>seventy-two, enters. She is white-haired, leaning upon her walking-stick.</i>	5
PUTNAM	( <i>pointing at the whimpering Betty</i> ): That is a notorious sign of witchcraft afoot, Goody Nurse, a prodigious sign!	
MRS PUTNAM	My mother told me that! When they cannot bear to hear the name of –	10
PARRIS	( <i>trembling</i> ): Rebecca, Rebecca, go to her, we're lost. She suddenly cannot bear to hear the Lord's –	
	GILES COREY, <i>eighty-three, enters. He is knotted with muscle, canny, inquisitive, and still powerful.</i>	
REBECCA	There is hard sickness here, Giles Corey, so please to keep the quiet.	15
GILES	I've not said a word. No one here can testify I've said a word. Is she going to fly again? I hear she flies.	
	...	
MRS PUTNAM	This is no silly season, Rebecca. My Ruth is bewildered, Rebecca; she cannot eat.	20
REBECCA	Perhaps she is not hungered yet. ( <i>To Parris.</i> ) I hope you are not decided to go in search of loose spirits, Mr Parris. I've heard promise of that outside.	

PARRIS	A wide opinion's running in the parish that the Devil may be among us, and I would satisfy them that they are wrong.	25
PROCTOR	Then let you come out and call them wrong. Did you consult the wardens before you called this minister to look for devils?	
PARRIS	He is not coming to look for devils!	

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Refer to line 1: 'The psalm! The psalm! She cannot bear to hear the Lord's name!' (3)
- Account for Betty's state of mind.
- 15.2 Refer to line 4: 'Mark it for a sign, mark it!' (3)
- Explain how Mrs Putnam's attitude toward the situation differs from that of Rebecca Nurse.
- 15.3 Refer to line 17: 'No one here can testify I've said a word.' (3)
- Comment on Giles's reaction to Rebecca's request that he 'keep the quiet' (lines 15–16).
- 15.4 Refer to lines 5–6: 'Rebecca Nurse ... her walking-stick.' (3)
- Comment on the dramatic significance of the description of Rebecca Nurse in the light of later events.
- 15.5 Refer to lines 26–27: 'Then let you ... look for devils?' (3)
- Discuss how Proctor's tone in these lines reveals his character.

### AND

#### EXTRACT J

DANFORTH	<i>(very politely)</i> : Goody Proctor. <i>(She is silent.)</i> I hope you are hearty?	5
ELIZABETH	<i>(as a warning reminder)</i> : I am yet six month before my time.	
DANFORTH	Pray be at your ease, we come not for your life. We – <i>(uncertain how to plead, for he is not accustomed to it.)</i> Mr Hale, will you speak with the woman?	
HALE	Goody Proctor, your husband is marked to hang this morning. <i>Pause.</i>	10
ELIZABETH	<i>(quietly)</i> : I have heard it.	
HALE	You know, do you not, that I have no connection with the court? <i>(She seems to doubt it.)</i> I come of my own, Goody Proctor. I would save your husband's life, for if he is taken I count myself his murderer. Do you understand me?	
ELIZABETH	What do you want of me?	15
HALE	Goody Proctor, I have gone this three month like our Lord into the wilderness. I have sought a Christian way, for damnation's doubled on a minister who counsels men to lie.	

HATHORNE	It is no lie, you cannot speak of lies.	
HALE	It is a lie! They are innocent!	
DANFORTH	I'll hear no more of that!	
HALE	( <i>continuing to Elizabeth</i> ): Let you not mistake your duty as I mistook my own. I came into this village like a bridegroom to his beloved, bearing gifts of high religion; the very crowns of holy law I brought, and what I touched with my bright confidence, it died; and where I turned the eye of my great faith, blood flowed up. Beware, Goody Proctor – cleave to no faith when faith brings blood. It is mistaken law that leads you to sacrifice. Life, woman, life is God's most precious gift; no principle, however glorious, may justify the taking of it. I beg you, woman, prevail upon your husband to confess. Let him give his lie.	20  25
	[Act 4]	

15.6 Refer to lines 9–10: '(She seems to doubt it.)'

Discuss how these lines reflect the change in the villagers' attitude toward religion and justice in Salem.

(3)

15.7 Refer to lines 20–28: '(continuing to Elizabeth ... give his lie.'

If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Motivate your instructions with reference to both body language and tone.

(3)

15.8 Using EXTRACT J as a starting point, comment on the extent to which it would be justifiable for the audience to feel pity for Hale.

(4)

[25]

<b>TOTAL SECTION C:</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>80</b>

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 25 for the rubric to assess this question.

- Egotism lies at the heart of the girls' accusations. They derive satisfaction from the respect they are shown by the villagers. The girls' selfish desire to protect themselves from censure initiates the witchcraft accusations. Their vindictiveness results in the deaths of innocent people.
- Abigail, especially, is conceited and relishes her power over the villagers. She is single-minded in her pursuit of Proctor and is prepared to sacrifice Elizabeth to satisfy her desire for him.
- Mary Warren is a timid girl who enjoys suddenly being able to assert herself.
- Many of the villagers selfishly accuse others to satisfy grudges and their greed for land, and to exact vengeance for past grievances, e.g. the Putnams.
- Parris is egotistically obsessed with his position in the village. He is more concerned with protecting his reputation and own interests than in exposing the truth. Parris thrives on the power and respect which he is afforded.
- Parris's selfish attitude helps to fuel the trials. He uses the trials to take revenge on Proctor for challenging him.
- Hale is proud of his 'scientific' knowledge of the supernatural. His arrogant, uncompromising attitude encourages the hysteria.
- To ease his own guilty conscience, Hale encourages the accused to save themselves by making false confessions, although it will result in their damnation.
- Danforth and court officials relish their renown. They are too proud to admit they have been deceived and continue the executions to escape criticism.
- At first, Elizabeth's hurt pride does not allow her to forgive Proctor. However, she selflessly compromises her morality by lying to protect him.
- Because of pride, Proctor initially does not admit his adultery; nor does he expose Abigail's deception. However, Proctor selflessly tries to save the wives of his friends, despite the danger.
- Proctor's decision not to confess might be interpreted as egotism: his decision will cause hardship for his family.
- Giles might be considered to be egotistical in his determination to sue those who have affronted him.

[Any reference to other issues should be peripheral at most.]

**[25]**



**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 Betty has been caught dancing and casting spells in the woods. The psalm is a reminder of the strict religious environment which demands retribution. She is so afraid of punishment that, in an act of self-preservation, she has become hysterical. She might, to some extent, be pretending to be ill.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.2 Mrs Putnam is keen for witchcraft to be discovered. In her mind, this will help explain the deaths of her children. She needs to be vindicated by projecting blame on to someone/something else. A supernatural explanation would satisfy her emotional needs.

Rebecca has a rational attitude, blaming the girls' activities on typical teenage behaviour which is harmless and will soon be at an end. Rebecca does not allow emotion to influence her assessment of the situation.

[Award 3 marks only if the contrast in attitude is clear.]

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.3 Giles reacts in an aggressive/challenging/firm/adamant manner. His words are a form of self-defence should someone have the desire to sue him. He has a litigious nature and has been in and out of court.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.4 Rebecca is described as an old, frail, vulnerable woman. She is unthreatening and certainly does not harbour ill intentions. The audience is likely to be horrified when she is accused of deliberately causing the deaths of Mrs Putnam's babies. There would be a considerable amount of sympathy for Rebecca Nurse when imprisonment weakens her condition even further. Her determination to maintain her unblemished reputation would be applauded by the audience who would probably have excused her if she had attempted to save herself.

[Award 3 marks only if reference is made to later events.]

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.5 Proctor's tone is accusatory/critical/challenging/defiant, which indicates that he is an independent thinker who questions authority. He is prepared to speak his mind and does not blindly follow. He stands for justice in that he reminds those around him of the proper procedures that should be followed to maintain order and that leaders should not arbitrarily exceed their powers.

[Award 1 mark for tone and 2 marks for a discussion of character.]

(3)

- 15.6 Salem society is supposed to be based on belief and trust in the court and the church. However, the immoral actions of Parris, their minister, and the court officials have raised doubts about the reliability and trustworthiness of these once-revered institutions. The villagers' faith in religion and the courts has been shaken.

Candidates might also indicate that the villagers are supposed to be united against the evil of the dangerous environment in which they live, yet they have become greedy, suspicious of one another and destructive. They use religion and the court system as means to exact revenge or for personal gain.

[Award 3 marks only if the change in attitude is discussed.]

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.7 Hale's actions should be clearly directed at Elizabeth. He could walk toward her, possibly taking her by the arm/shoulder and looking her in the eyes in an attempt to persuade her that he has Proctor's best interests at heart. Initially, Hale's tone might be contrite, as he tries to absolve himself of guilt and then become emphatic/imploring as he urges Elizabeth to encourage Proctor to give a false confession.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a motivation.] (3)

- 15.8 The audience might pity Hale. When he arrives in Salem, Hale truly believes in his power to expose witchcraft. Hale believes he is an upholder of the Christian faith and his fervent endeavours will be to the advantage of Salem: he will be uprooting the devil and restoring holiness. The audience might feel sympathy for Hale when he realises that he has been misled by the girls and that his unremitting attitude has betrayed many innocent people, condemning them to their deaths. The audience might recognise and sympathise with Hale's tireless efforts to rescue the innocent victims.

**OR**

The audience might feel unsympathetic and/or indifferent to Hale's emotional distress. The sympathy of the audience might lie with the victims who are determined to uphold their integrity. Hale's pompous and arrogant attitude has contributed toward the hysteria and the resulting tragedy. The audience might blame Hale and feel he is getting his just desserts.

[Accept mixed responses.]

[Award 4 marks for any three points well discussed OR any four distinct ideas.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

*The Crucible* demonstrates that human behaviour is all too often directed by ulterior motives that result in destruction.

Critically discuss the extent to which you agree with the above statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

[25]

OR

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

PROCTOR	( <i>with solemn warning</i> ): You will not judge me more, Elizabeth. I have good reason to think before I charge fraud on Abigail, and I will think on it. Let you look to your own improvement before you go to judge your husband any more. I have forgot Abigail, and –	
ELIZABETH	And I.	5
PROCTOR	Spare me! You forget nothin' and forgive nothin'. Learn charity, woman. I have gone tiptoe in this house all seven month since she is gone. I have not moved from there to there without I think to please you, and still an everlasting funeral marches round your heart. I cannot speak but I am doubted, every moment judged for lies, as though I come into a court when I come into this house!	10
	...	
ELIZABETH	I do not judge you. The magistrate sits in your heart that judges you. I never thought you but a good man, John – ( <i>with a smile</i> ) – only somewhat bewildered.	
PROCTOR	( <i>laughing bitterly</i> ): Oh, Elizabeth, your justice would freeze beer! ( <i>He turns suddenly toward a sound outside. He starts for the door as MARY WARREN enters. As soon as he sees her, he goes directly to her and grabs her by her cloak, furious.</i> ) How do you go to Salem when I forbid it? Do you mock me? ( <i>Shaking her.</i> ) I'll whip you if you dare leave this house again!	15
	<i>Strangely, she doesn't resist him, but hangs limply by his grip.</i>	20
MARY	I am sick, I am sick, Mr Proctor. Pray, pray, hurt me not. ( <i>Her strangeness throws him off, and her evident pallor and weakness. He frees her.</i> ) My insides are all shuddery; I am in the proceedings all day, sir.	
[Act 2]		

- 15.1 Refer to lines 1–2: 'I have good reason to think before I charge fraud on Abigail'.  
Explain why Proctor is reluctant to 'charge fraud on Abigail'. (3)
- 15.2 Refer to lines 8–9: 'and still an everlasting funeral marches round your heart'.  
What does Proctor's comment suggest about Elizabeth's attitude toward him? (3)
- 15.3 Refer to the stage direction in line 21: '*Strangely, she doesn't resist him*'.  
Suggest why Mary Warren's reaction might be considered strange. (3)
- 15.4 The trials are referred to as 'proceedings' (line 24) rather than as 'witch trials'.  
Comment on the implications of the choice of the word, 'proceedings'. (3)
- 15.5 Refer to line 12: 'The magistrate sits in your heart that judges you.'  
Discuss the validity of Elizabeth's assessment of Proctor in light of later events in the play. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT B**

PROCTOR	Then who will judge me? ( <i>Suddenly clasping his hands.</i> ) God in Heaven, what is John Proctor, what is John Proctor? ( <i>He moves as an animal, and a fury is riding in him, a tantalized search.</i> ) I think it is honest, I think so; I am no saint. ( <i>As though she had denied this he calls angrily at her.</i> ) Let Rebecca go like a saint; for me it is fraud!	5
	<i>Voices are heard in the hall, speaking together in suppressed excitement.</i>	
ELIZABETH	I am not your judge, I cannot be. ( <i>As though giving him release</i> ) Do as you will, do as you will!	
PROCTOR	Would you give them such a lie? Say it. Would you ever give them this? ( <i>She cannot answer.</i> ) You would not; if tongs of fire were singeing you you would not! It is evil. Good, then – it is evil, and I do it!	10
	HATHORNE <i>enters with</i> DANFORTH, <i>and, with them,</i> CHEEVER, PARRIS, <i>and</i> HALE. <i>It is a businesslike, rapid entrance, as though the ice had been broken.</i>	
DANFORTH	( <i>with great relief and gratitude</i> ): Praise to God, man, praise to God; you shall be blessed in Heaven for this. ( <i>CHEEVER has hurried to the bench with pen, ink, and paper. PROCTOR watches him.</i> ) Now then, let us have it. Are you ready, Mr Cheever?	15
PROCTOR	( <i>with a cold, cold horror at their efficiency</i> ): Why must it be written?	
DANFORTH	Why, for the good instruction of the village, Mister; this we shall post upon the church door! ( <i>To Parris, urgently.</i> ) Where is the marshal?	20
PARRIS	( <i>runs to the door and calls down the corridor</i> ): Marshal! Hurry!	

[Act 4]

- 15.6 Refer to line 19: 'Why must it be written?'  
With reference to the extract as a whole, critically comment on Proctor's conflicting feelings about the confession. (3)
- 15.7 Comment on the significance of '*cold, cold horror*' (line 19) in the context of the play as a whole. (3)
- 15.8 In EXTRACT A, line 13, Elizabeth says, 'I never thought you but a good man, John'.  
Is this assessment of Proctor's character reinforced in EXTRACT B? Justify your response. (4)  
[25]
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to the rubric on page 23 to assess this question.

Characters have hidden agendas which lead to destruction. The witch hunts are a manifestation of the panic that sets in when suspicion and superstition are utilised to mask real motives.

- The girls wish to escape the conformity of Salem by dancing naked in the wood. Once exposed, they have to find a scapegoat.
- Abigail uses Tituba to cast a spell to rid herself of Elizabeth so that Abigail can reclaim John Proctor. Abigail wants to gain power over Elizabeth. She is envious of Elizabeth and she desires revenge since she feels Elizabeth is blackening her name in the village.
- The girls are motivated by the fear of punishment. They view the witchcraft accusations they level against others as a way of escaping the censure of Salem society and the exposure of their fraudulent behaviour. The girls constantly accuse others: their motive is to preserve their newly gained power. They unleash a reign of terror in Salem. Destructive hidden hatreds, greed and desires for revenge are pursued.
- Abigail becomes aggressive and defiant when people question her accusations and her character, implying that they are undermining the power of the court. Her actual motive is self-preservation.
- Superstition is exploited by the citizens to hide their ulterior motives.
- Mr Putnam's motivation is his desire for land.
- Mrs Putnam capitalises on the consequences of the hysteria, accusing Rebecca Nurse of the deaths of her babies. This results in Rebecca's arrest and hanging.
- Hale is summoned by Parris to disprove witchcraft. However, when Hale shows that he is determined to expose witchcraft, Parris is happy with the situation since attention is now diverted from the girls and thus from him. He feels secure in his position and can take revenge on Proctor and Corey for their criticism.
- Hale's initial motive for finding 'evidence' of witchcraft is to impress people and display his 'knowledge'. This will contribute to the tragedy.
- Danforth and Hathorne are proud of their status as judges. They resent implications that they use the trials to impress people with their power. This allows people to exploit the justice system to exact revenge.

[Consider alternative valid responses.]

[25]

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 Proctor has had an affair with Abigail and is afraid of her vindictive nature. He is concerned that if he charges her, she would expose his adultery and his reputation would be destroyed.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas OR 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.2 Proctor accuses Elizabeth of being cold-hearted. He feels that she does not recognise all his efforts to atone. She has remained unforgiving and suspicious in spite of his efforts to make amends. She has been relentless in her silent attitude toward him.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas OR 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.3 Proctor is surprised by Mary's lack of defiance. Her acquired boldness since the start of the trials is a result of her being an important official of the court. Her current reaction is out of character. She is emotionally and physically drained. She does not resist. Her defiance has dissipated.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[Award 3 marks for three ideas OR 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.4 The trials have been afforded an air of respectability by avoiding the implication of a witch hunt. The euphemistic use of the word, 'proceedings' implies that the trials are merely routinely following legal procedure and that nothing untoward is happening. All implications of superstition and the accompanying exploitation thereof are negated by the use of 'proceedings'. The word removes possible implications of evil intentions and conveys the idea that the events are based on facts, not superstition.

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate shows an understanding of the connotations of the word, 'proceedings'.] (3)

- 15.5 Valid.  
Elizabeth points out that Proctor is his own most critical judge and he needs to learn to accept Elizabeth's forgiveness and forgive himself. She advises him to overcome his guilt. This is borne out at the end of the play when he follows his conscience and refuses to lie to save himself.

**OR**

Invalid.

[A cogent 'Invalid' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Award 3 marks only if candidates make reference to events later in the play.]

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)



- 15.6 Proctor's assumption is that he can manipulate the situation to his advantage. He makes a confession out of self-interest. He will confess if it means saving his life, but not if it means sacrificing his good name and reputation. By making a false confession, he will save himself and be able to take care of his family. He will exploit the law which saves the lives of those that confess to witchcraft. However, to have the confession in writing for all of Salem to see is too much for him to bear. He does not want his confession on record.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas OR 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.7 The connotations and the repetition of the word 'cold' reflect the extent of Proctor's shock at the inhumanity displayed by the judges. The word 'horror' is appropriate to the extent of the evil unleashed in the course of the drama. It reflects the irrational perversion of the judicial system and the power exerted by the cynical and evil Abigail. People like the Putnams exploit the situation to suit their own ends. The horror culminates in the execution of characters who are not only innocent but also worthy: Giles Corey, Rebecca Nurse and Proctor himself.

[Award 3 marks only if candidates make reference to both 'cold' and 'horror'.] (3)

- 15.8 Yes.  
In EXTRACT B, Proctor questions the morality of his actions. He admits that he is 'no saint'; Proctor is still haunted by his infidelity. His integrity will not allow him to dishonour prisoners like Rebecca; in acknowledging Rebecca as a saint, he draws attention to his conscience. When he is confronted with the reality of signing a written statement, he reacts in 'cold, cold horror'. When he questions the need for a written confession, a resolution of his conflict emerges. This extract foregrounds the conflict Proctor is experiencing and prepares the reader for his final decision to choose his reputation above his life.

**OR**

No.  
[A cogent 'No' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Mark globally.] (4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

*The Crucible* reveals how weaknesses invite exploitation and injustice.

Critically discuss this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****OR****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE– CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

HATHORNE	But a poppet will keep fifteen years, will it not?	
PROCTOR	It will keep if it is kept, but Mary Warren swears she never saw no poppets in my house, nor anyone else.	
PARRIS	Why could there not have been poppets hid where no one ever saw them?	5
PROCTOR	( <i>furious</i> ): There might also be a dragon with five legs in my house, but no one has ever seen it.	
PARRIS	We are here, Your Honour, precisely to discover what no one has ever seen.	
PROCTOR	Mr Danforth, what profit this girl to turn herself about? What may Mary Warren gain but hard questioning and worse?	10
DANFORTH	You are charging Abigail Williams with a marvellous cool plot to murder, do you understand that?	
PROCTOR	I do, sir. I believe she means to murder.	
DANFORTH	( <i>pointing at Abigail, incredulously</i> ): This child would murder your wife?	15
PROCTOR	It is not a child. Now hear me, sir.	
[Act 3]		

15.1 Account for the reference to the poppet in this extract. (3)

15.2 Drawing on your knowledge of the play as a whole, discuss Mary Warren's role in advancing Abigail's plans. (3)

15.3 Refer to lines 6–7: 'There might also be a dragon with five legs in my house, but no one has ever seen it.'

Discuss the implications of Proctor's words in the context of the play as a whole. (3)

- 15.4 Refer to lines 15–16: 'DANFORTH (*pointing at Abigail, incredulously*): This child would murder your wife?'

Discuss the irony of Danforth's perception of Abigail.

(3)

### AND

#### EXTRACT B

PROCTOR	<i>(He has lifted her, and kisses her now with great passion.)</i>	
REBECCA	Let you fear nothing! Another judgement waits us all!	
DANFORTH	Hang them high over the town! Who weeps for these, weeps for corruption! <i>(He sweeps out past them. HERRICK starts to lead REBECCA, who almost collapses, but PROCTOR catches her, and she glances up at him apologetically.)</i>	5
REBECCA	I've had no breakfast.	
HERRICK	Come, man. HERRICK escorts them out, HATHORNE and CHEEVER behind them. ELIZABETH stands staring at the empty doorway.	10
PARRIS	<i>(in deadly fear to Elizabeth)</i> : Go to him, Goody Proctor! There is yet time! <i>From outside a drumroll strikes the air. PARRIS is startled. ELIZABETH jerks about toward the window.</i>	
PARRIS	Go to him! <i>(He rushes out the door, as though to hold back his fate.)</i> Proctor! Proctor! <i>Again, a short burst of drums.</i>	15
HALE	Woman, plead with him! <i>(He starts to rush out the door, and then goes back to her.)</i> Woman! It is pride, it is vanity. <i>(She avoids his eyes, and moves to the window. He drops to his knees.)</i> Be his helper! – What profits him to bleed? Shall the dust praise him? Shall the worms declare his truth? Go to him, take his shame away!	20
ELIZABETH	<i>(supporting herself against collapse, grips the bars of the window, and with a cry)</i> : He have his goodness now. God forbid I take it from him!  <i>The final drumroll crashes, then heightens violently. HALE weeps in frantic prayer, and the new sun is pouring in upon her face, and the drums rattle like bones in the morning air.</i>	25

[Act 4]

- 15.5 Refer to the stage direction in line 1: '*(He has lifted her, and kisses her now with great passion.)*'

How does this reflect a change in Proctor and Elizabeth's relationship?

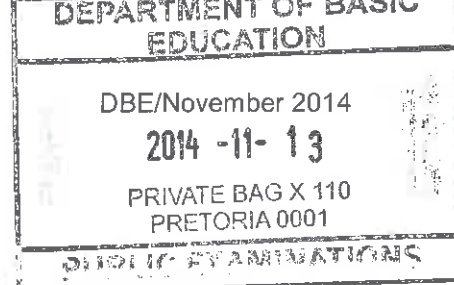
(3)

- 15.6 Refer to line 3: 'Hang them high over the town!'

If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Motivate your instructions.

(3)

- 15.7 Comment on the dramatic impact of the reference to the drums in line 13: '*(From outside a drumroll strikes the air.)*', line 17: '*(Again, a short burst of drums)*', line 25: '*(The final drumroll crashes, then heightens violently.)*' and lines 26–27: '*the drums rattle like bones in the morning air*'. (3)
- 15.8 Refer to lines 18–24: 'Woman, plead with him [Proctor]! ... God forbid I take it from him!'
- In your opinion, are these lines crucial to an understanding of how Proctor's morality influences his final decision? Justify your response. (4)  
[25]
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- Refer to page 23 for the rubric to assess this question.

Salem society enforces a strict code of conformity. People who display individuality are accused of contravening the norms of the church. The oppressive theocracy leads to frustration and a desire to break free of constrictions. The excessively superstitious society is the ideal environment in which hysteria and fanaticism can flourish.

- The witch-hunt is an opportunity to express simmering hatred, resentment, greed and desire for revenge. People turn on each other in an accusatory frenzy.
- People's fear of the courts is exploited by those with ulterior motives.
- Abigail and Proctor's lust leads to the unjust conviction of Elizabeth, since Abigail exploits the superstition of the people and the gullibility of the court.
- Hale's pride in his knowledge lies at the root of his obsession to expose witchcraft. He refuses to consider the explanations offered by the victims, preferring the supernatural explanations. He exploits the events to enhance his reputation, resulting in innocent people's being unjustly accused and convicted.
- Hale's self-importance prevents him from acknowledging the widespread hypocrisy, corruption and abuse of the trials.
- Hale's lack of objectivity allows the villagers to use the situation to satisfy their own selfish aims. His arrogance helps to fuel the girls' power, leading to a flurry of persecution and injustice.
- Hale is easily deceived by Parris, the girls and those seeking revenge. His conceit regards any challenge as a threat to his mission to root out evil, thus perpetuating the injustice.
- Hale's single-minded interrogation of Tituba unleashes the accusations. He is too egotistical and self-absorbed to notice that she confesses out of fear.
- The other girls are jealous of the attention; they exploit the mass hysteria to enjoy status and power in Salem and to escape censure.
- Danforth and Hathorne are over-confident and arrogant. They will not allow the exposure of the trials as a sham as it will damage their reputations.
- Danforth is proud and power-hungry, using the trials to advance his career. He resents the questioning of his authority. He uses his position as judge to impose his will. With his egotistical refusal to stop the trials, he perpetuates the evil that has taken hold.
- Danforth's pedantic insistence on nailing Proctor's confession to the church door leads to Proctor's recanting as well as his unjust execution.
- Parris is mainly concerned with protecting his status in the village and exploits the trials to divert attention from his lack of control over Betty and Abigail.
- He enjoys the power and influence he gains during the trials. He exploits the witch-hunts to get revenge on Proctor for challenging him.
- Proctor's weakness in having the affair and then not confessing to it allows the situation to escalate. His death is thus an injustice.

The exploitation of the witch-hunt is enabled by individual and societal weaknesses, resulting in the unjust convictions of innocent victims.

[Irrespective of the number of characters mentioned, full credit may be given provided that the discussion is on how weaknesses invite exploitation and injustice.]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, followed by the number [25] enclosed in a small square box.

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1 The court believes the poppet is a voodoo doll. Elizabeth has been accused by Abigail of having dabbled in witchcraft. Abigail pulls a needle from her stomach and a needle is found in the doll's stomach. It is believed that this is a sign that Elizabeth is guilty of attempted murder.

[Candidates may discuss how Proctor uses the poppet to argue in defence of his wife.]

[Award 3 marks for any three ideas.] (3)

- 15.2 Mary Warren condones and supports Abigail's plans to destroy Elizabeth and to avoid the consequences of their actions in the woods. She is an active participant in the accusations and trials which divert attention from the girls' actions. She is responsible for the incriminating poppet's being found in Elizabeth's home. Abigail's plan is then realised as Elizabeth is arrested.

[Award 3 marks for any three ideas.] (3)

- 15.3 The ridiculousness of the statement sums up Proctor's view of the absurdity of the accusations. The notion that they are trying to discover something that 'no one has ever seen' is ridiculous. They are in a court of law – they should be concerned with facts, not hearsay. He points out that someone's making an accusation does not mean it is true. Proctor makes it clear that it is too easy to make false, ridiculous accusations – a feature throughout the play.

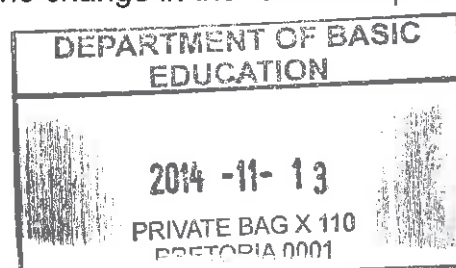
[Award 3 marks for any three ideas.] (3)

- 15.4 Danforth cannot believe that Abigail is capable of murder; however, she is responsible for the deaths of various characters. Danforth refers to Abigail as a 'child', yet she is deceptive, not innocent. She behaves in a devious manner. Her words and actions have ulterior motives. She plots to have Elizabeth arrested in order to resume her affair with Proctor. One would not expect a child to be capable of evil deception or have a hidden agenda.

[Award 3 marks for any three ideas.] (3)

- 15.5 Elizabeth has acknowledged that she has been cold toward Proctor. The affair has intensified the coldness in their relationship. All Proctor's past attempts at reconciliation have been rebuffed by Elizabeth, who has remained distant. The passionate kiss is a sign of her forgiveness and of Proctor's acceptance of her forgiveness.

[Award 3 marks only if the change in the relationship is evident.] (3)





- 15.6 Danforth could be hitting the bench/making a fist/lifting his hands in the air. His face could be contorted with rage in order to convey his frustration, irritation and anger. He could be pointing at Proctor and Rebecca, or pointing out the window to indicate they should be taken to the gallows. He wants to be rid of them. His tone would be vindictive/angry/bitter/frustrated since his attempts to persuade Proctor to confess and thus save himself and the others have failed.

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

[To earn 3 marks, the candidate must provide motivation.]

[Award 3 marks only if both the instruction and the motivation are discussed.] (3)

- 15.7 The drums signify the start of the executions and help to increase the tension as they and the scene build to a climax. The drums reach a crescendo as the victims are executed. The drums heighten the tragedy and poignancy of the scene. The menacing tone of military drums is foreboding/ominous. Traditionally, drums are associated with executions and signify doom. The detail, 'the drums rattle like bones' conveys an image of death. The clattering of the drums is a jarring, unnerving sound, which is in keeping with the tense atmosphere.

[Award 3 marks for a critical comment on any three ideas about the impact.] (3)

- 15.8 Yes. Hale is suggesting that Proctor put aside his moral integrity and save himself. However, Proctor's refusal to give in to the pressure to take the easy way out reveals the importance of his honour ('name'). We understand that, by refusing to lie to save himself, he will restore his reputation, whereas admitting to witchcraft would forever tarnish his and his family's legacy. Proctor's recognition of his sins and his decision to be executed is his way of atoning. He is prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice to maintain his good repute and re-establish his credibility.

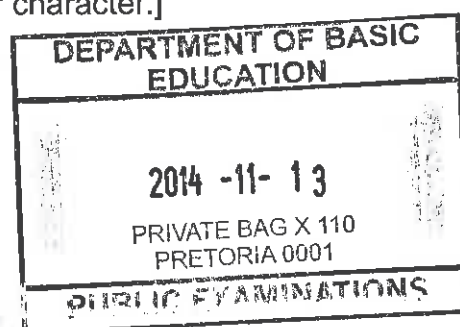
[Candidates might refer to Elizabeth's appreciation for and support of Proctor's decision. 'He have his goodness now' reveals her understanding of the importance of moral righteousness to Proctor.]

OR

No. Candidates may argue that we already know him to be a man of moral integrity as he has already established the importance of his 'name' and therefore his decision is to be expected. Hale's and Elizabeth's words do not add to our understanding of Proctor's decision.

[Accept mixed responses.]

[Award 4 marks only if the candidate assesses how 'these lines (are) crucial' to an understanding of character.]



TOTAL SECTION C:  
GRAND TOTAL:

(4)  
[25]  
25  
80

Please turn over



**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 15 (essay question) OR QUESTION 16 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

The irony of the Salem witchcraft trials is that they are meant to preserve order, promote morality and serve justice; instead, they have the opposite effect.

In a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages), critically assess the validity of this statement.

**[25]****OR****QUESTION 16: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

HALE	Abigail were stabbed tonight; a needle were found stuck into her belly –	
ELIZABETH	And she charges me?	
HALE	Aye.	
ELIZABETH	<i>(her breath knocked out)</i> : Why – ! The girl is murder! She must be ripped out of the world!	5
CHEEVER	<i>(pointing at Elizabeth)</i> : You've heard that, sir! Ripped out of the world! Herrick, you heard it!	
PROCTOR	<i>(suddenly snatching the warrant out of Cheever's hands)</i> : Out with you.	
CHEEVER	Proctor, you dare not touch the warrant.	
PROCTOR	<i>(ripping the warrant)</i> : Out with you!	10
CHEEVER	You've ripped the Deputy Governor's warrant, man!	
PROCTOR	Damn the Deputy Governor! Out of my house!	
HALE	Now, Proctor, Proctor!	
PROCTOR	Get y'gone with them. You are a broken minister.	
HALE	Proctor, if she is innocent, the court –	15
PROCTOR	If she is innocent! Why do you never wonder if Parris be innocent, or Abigail? Is the accuser always holy now? Were they born this morning as clean as God's fingers? I'll tell you what's walking Salem – vengeance is walking Salem. We are what we always were in Salem, but now the little crazy children are jangling the keys of the kingdom, and common vengeance writes the law! This warrant's vengeance! I'll not give my wife to vengeance!	20
ELIZABETH	I'll go, John –	
PROCTOR	You will not go!	
HERRICK	I have nine men outside. You cannot keep her. The law binds me, John, I cannot budge.	25
PROCTOR	<i>(to Hale, ready to break him)</i> : Will you see her taken?	
HALE	Proctor, the court is just –	
PROCTOR	Pontius Pilate! God will not let you wash your hands of this!	

[Act 2]

- 16.1 Place the extract in context. (3)
- 16.2 Refer to Elizabeth's responses in lines 4–5: 'Why – ! The girl is murder! She must be ripped out of the world!' and line 23: 'I'll go John –'.
- Suggest what Elizabeth's responses reveal about her character at this stage of the play. (3)
- 16.3 Explain how the image, 'the little crazy children are jangling the keys of the kingdom' (line 20) contributes to your understanding of events in the play. (3)
- 16.4 Examine lines 25–26: 'The law binds me, John, I cannot budge.'
- Explain how Herrick's attitude to the rule of law is representative of that of many people in Salem. (3)
- 16.5 'Proctor, the court is just – ' (line 28).
- Discuss the irony that it is Hale who states that 'the court is just – '. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT B**

REBECCA	<i>(brightening as she sees Proctor)</i> : Ah, John! You are well, then, eh?	
	PROCTOR <i>turns his face to the wall</i> .	
DANFORTH	Courage, man, courage – let her witness your good example that she may come to God herself. Now hear it, Goody Nurse! Say on, Mr Proctor. Did you bind yourself to the Devil's service?	5
REBECCA	<i>(astonished)</i> : Why, John!	
PROCTOR	<i>(through his teeth, his face turned from Rebecca)</i> : I did.	
DANFORTH	Now, woman, you surely see it profit nothin' to keep this conspiracy any further. Will you confess yourself with him?	
REBECCA	Oh, John – God send his mercy on you!	10
DANFORTH	I say, will you confess yourself, Goody Nurse?	
REBECCA	Why, it is a lie, it is a lie: how may I damn myself? I cannot, I cannot.	
DANFORTH	Mr Proctor. When the Devil came to you did you see Rebecca Nurse in his company? (PROCTOR <i>is silent</i> .) Come, man, take courage – did you ever see her with the Devil?	15
PROCTOR	<i>(almost inaudibly)</i> : No.	
	DANFORTH, <i>now sensing trouble, glances at John and goes to the table, and picks up a sheet – the list of condemned</i> .	
[Act 4]		

- 16.6 Comment on Rebecca's role in influencing Proctor's decision later in the play. (3)
- 16.7 Critically discuss how the stage directions and Proctor's actions contribute to your understanding of the change he has undergone in the course of the play. (3)

16.8 The play, *The Crucible*, depicts how easily a community can destroy itself.

By a close reading of Extract A and Extract B, comment critically on how this is true of Salem.

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- Refer to page 29 for the rubric to assess this question.

Candidates need to demonstrate that Salem is an extremely religious and superstitious society in which people believe that rooting out witches is doing God's work. However, in their determination to expose witchcraft, they become fanatical and lose perspective. They use the trials to serve their own interests. The trials do not promote truth or justice.

- The trials represent a perversion of justice and social order.
- Hale is invited to disprove witchcraft to restore the social order; however, his eagerness to find witchcraft and punish the wrongdoers leads to an upheaval in Salem society.
- Hale is supposed to have a scientific knowledge of witchcraft, yet he does not remain objective. Instead, he becomes fanatical in his determination to find witchcraft.
- The trials do not promote morality or justice, which is the main task of a court of law. Instead, they give people like Abigail the opportunity to promote their self-interest. Abigail, in her determination to resume her immoral relationship with Proctor, is prepared to have Elizabeth executed. Such self-centred actions are a perversion of morality and justice.
- The trials are used by the Salem residents to serve their own greed, exact revenge and settle grudges.
- Danforth is a judge, thus he is supposed to remain objective. The irony is that he stubbornly believes the accusers and refuses to believe that upright citizens are being accused because of ulterior motives. Whenever anyone questions the court, he accuses that person of plotting to 'topple Christ in the country' instead of listening to his/her point.
- Instead of promoting and restoring social order, the trials cause upheaval, promoting superstition, suspicion and fear.
- Minor transgressions become major social issues: Proctor's falling under suspicion due to his failure to attend church regularly, etc.
- Hale becomes suspicious because Proctor declares he does not believe in witches. This is tantamount to saying he does not believe the teachings of the Church.
- Proctor's attempt to save Elizabeth concludes with a chaotic court appearance where Proctor denies God. He laughs insanely, saying, 'God damns our kind.'
- Instead of supporting and promoting the justice of the court, Hale denounces the legal proceedings and quits the court. Later, he encourages people to make false confessions in order to save themselves. This is ironic, since the court is supposed to promote honesty and truth. It is also ironic that, when Hale attacks the court, he is serving justice because the court itself is unjust.
- Even after Abigail's disappearance with Parris's money, Danforth still refuses to stop the trials, preferring to allow the social upheaval and the unjust executions to continue.
- Parris contributes to the anarchy by encouraging the witch-hunts so as to divert attention from himself. This is ironic since, as he is a minister, he is supposed to fight for truth.

- Other examples of how social anarchy reveals itself: many orphans wander the streets/lands are abandoned and crops are rotting/cattle wander about/villagers threaten to rebel against the court/good people, like Rebecca Nurse who has served the community, go to the gallows.
- Instead of promoting social order, the trials result in anarchy and chaos.
- According to the Puritans' social order, girls like Abigail, and the slave, Tituba, have inferior status. However, the trials provide them with the opportunity to rebel against their inferior status and acquire power over respected citizens. As the trials continue, the girls become the respected citizens who wield all the power.

**[25]**

**QUESTION 16: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL**

- 16.1 As a result of Abigail's accusations against Elizabeth, Cheever has come to the Proctor household to question Elizabeth about owning a doll. After Elizabeth's denial, Cheever discovers the doll with the needle. It is taken as a sign that Elizabeth has cast a spell on Abigail. (3)
- 16.2 Elizabeth is perceptive because she is able to predict that Abigail will cause trouble. This suggests that she is a good judge of character. She is obedient and believes in the upholding of the law. She does not question authority and prefers to avoid conflict. Elizabeth also realises that Proctor is likely to lose his temper and endanger himself. Her loyalty to him makes her determined to avoid this; hence her compliance. (3)
- [Mark globally.]
- 16.3 Proctor describes how twisted the young girls' plans are. They have power over life and death: their accusations are sending people to their doom. They are rattling the keys to heaven: they determine who will be damned and who will be saved. The situation is chaotic/out of control. The onomatopoeic 'jangling' is a harsh, discordant sound suggesting the chaos in Salem. (3)
- [Mark globally.]
- 16.4 People like Herrick put their faith in the court and regard it as powerful and beyond reproach. Even if they know the court is corrupt, people continue to accept the court's legitimacy and blindly adhere to its rules and orders; therefore they can easily be misled and manipulated. (3)
- 16.5 Earlier in the play, as a supporter and defender of the legal system, Hale believes the court is just. He is convinced that the court will give people a fair trial and that the witchcraft will be eradicated. Ironically, Hale later tries to persuade the accused to make false confessions in order to save their lives since he knows that the court is far from just. It is also an admission that there is no witchcraft in Salem and that he has been under a false impression. Hale realises his error in initially upholding the justice of the court and the role he has played in the execution of innocent people. (3)
- 16.6 Rebecca is Proctor's conscience/moral compass. She sets the example to Proctor of not compromising her principles. She refuses to make a false confession and so ruin her reputation and condemn her soul. Proctor, having regained his self-esteem, decides to follow her example in order to preserve his reputation/integrity/honour, even though he has been given the opportunity to save himself. He chooses to emulate Rebecca and die with his honour intact. (3)
- 16.7 Earlier in the play, Proctor is assertive, and refuses to bow to authority. When Herrick comes to arrest Elizabeth, he tears up the warrant. He speaks disrespectfully to the officials of the court.
- At this stage of the play, Proctor is submissive, meek and reluctant to speak. He kowtows to the authority of the court in order to save himself. He is too ashamed to face Rebecca. When he is questioned, he speaks through his teeth, or remains quiet because he has lost his self-respect.
- [Credit valid alternative responses.] (3)

- 16.8 Abigail attempts to destroy the relationship between the Proctors to take revenge on Elizabeth for her dismissal and the termination of her affair with Proctor. She believes that, with Elizabeth out of the way, they will resume their affair. The initial vengeance spreads throughout the community as more people fall prey to the girls' accusations and others clamour to exact personal revenge. The hysteria spirals out of control and the community turns on itself.

Examples that may be referred to include:

- An icon like Rebecca is destroyed because Mrs Putnam needs a scapegoat.
- Parris wants to protect his reputation as a minister and encourages the trials since they divert attention from his apparent lack of control over Abigail and his daughter.
- People like Herrick, Cheever and the girls abuse their newly-acquired power to gain status. They have the opportunity to assert themselves for the first time in their lives and they relish the opportunity to wreak havoc.
- The community destroys itself through greed: Mr Putnam's daughter accuses George Jacobs in order to gain a gift of land from her father. This is a reflection of how the community has lost its moral standards, in order to preserve its selfish interests.

The drama portrays the destruction of innocent people as a consequence of irrational actions and reactions.

[Mark globally.]

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[Award full marks only for the following:

- If reference is made to the extracts only, but the discussion is fully developed.
- If the point of departure is the extracts and reference is then made to the play as a whole.
- If the point of departure is the play, but references are made to the extracts, either implicitly or explicitly.

Award a maximum of 2 marks if reference is made only to the play as a whole.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**



**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

To a significant degree, the hero of *The Crucible* deserves what happens to him.

Critically discuss the extent to which you agree with the above statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

[25]

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

HALE	( <i>To all.</i> ) Now mark me, if the Devil is in her you will witness some frightful wonders in this room, so please to keep your wits about you. Mr Putnam, stand close in case she flies. Now, Betty, dear, will you sit up?	
	...	
PARRIS	( <i>in fright</i> ): How can it be the Devil? Why would he choose my house to strike? We have all manner of licentious people in the village!	5
HALE	What victory would the Devil have to win a soul already bad? It is the best the Devil wants, and who is better than the minister?	
GILES	That's deep, Mr Parris, deep, deep!	
	...	
HALE	Now HALE takes her [Tituba's] hand. She is surprised. Tituba. You must have no fear to tell us who they are, do you understand? We will protect you. The Devil can never overcome a minister. You know that, do you not?	10
TITUBA	( <i>kisses Hale's hand</i> ): Aye, sir, oh, I do.	
HALE	You have confessed yourself to witchcraft, and that speaks a wish to come to Heaven's side. And we will bless you, Tituba.	15
TITUBA	( <i>deeply relieved</i> ): Oh, God bless you, Mr Hale!	
HALE	( <i>with rising exaltation</i> ): You are God's instrument put in our hands to discover the Devil's agents among us. You are selected, Tituba, you are chosen to help us cleanse our village. So speak utterly, Tituba, turn your back on him and face God – face God, Tituba, and God will protect you.	20
[Act 1]		

15.1 Refer to lines 5–6: 'How can it be the Devil? Why should he choose my house to strike?'

Account for Parris's current state of mind.

(3)

- 15.2 Refer to the stage directions in line 10: 'Now HALE *takes her* [Tituba's] *hand*. *She is surprised*.'

Suggest why Tituba is surprised when Hale takes her hand. (3)

- 15.3 Refer to Hale's '*rising exaltation*' (line 18).

What does Hale's response reveal about his attitude at this stage of the play? (3)

- 15.4 Refer to lines 18–19: 'You are God's ... are selected, Tituba'.

Discuss how Hale's words to Tituba have an influence on the other girls in the village. (3)

### AND

#### EXTRACT J

DANFORTH	Mr Proctor. When the Devil came to you did you see Rebecca Nurse in his company? (PROCTOR <i>is silent</i> .) Come, man, take courage – did you ever see her with the Devil?	
PROCTOR	( <i>almost inaudibly</i> ): No.	
	DANFORTH <i>now sensing trouble, glances at John and goes to the table, and picks up a sheet – the list of condemned.</i>	5
DANFORTH	Did you ever see her sister, Mary Easty, with the Devil?	
PROCTOR	No, I did not.	
DANFORTH	( <i>his eyes narrow on Proctor</i> ): Did you ever see Martha Corey with the Devil?	10
PROCTOR	I did not.	
DANFORTH	( <i>realising, slowly putting the sheet down</i> ): Did you ever see anyone with the Devil?	
PROCTOR	I did not.	
DANFORTH	Proctor, you mistake me. I am not empowered to trade your life for a lie. You have most certainly seen some person with the Devil. (PROCTOR <i>is silent</i> .) Mr Proctor, a score of people have already testified they saw this woman with the Devil.	15
PROCTOR	Then it is proved. Why must I say it?	
DANFORTH	Why 'must' you say it! Why, you should rejoice to say it if your soul is truly purged of any love for Hell!	20
PROCTOR	They think to go like saints. I like not to spoil their names.	
DANFORTH	( <i>inquiring, incredulously</i> ): Mr Proctor, do you think they go like saints?	
	...	
DANFORTH	(PROCTOR <i>is silent</i> .) To your knowledge was Rebecca Nurse ever – I speak my own sins; I cannot judge another. ( <i>Crying out, with hatred</i> .)	25
PROCTOR	I have no tongue for it.	
[Act 4]		

- 15.5 Explain the significance of Danforth's eyes narrowing in line 9. (3)

- 15.6 Discuss the irony in 'I am not empowered to trade your life for a lie' (lines 15–16). (3)

15.7 Refer to the following lines:

'When the Devil ... in his company?' (Lines 1–2)

'To your knowledge was Rebecca Nurse ever – ' (Line 24)

Comment on why Rebecca Nurse is targeted by Danforth. (3)

15.8 Refer to line 25: '(Crying out, with hatred.)'

Is Proctor justified in being consumed by hatred? Argue in support of your response, using your knowledge of the play as a whole.

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

Disagree:

- Proctor is an honest, hard-working, upstanding member of the community. He has gained the respect of many of the villagers.
- Although Proctor's affair with Abigail has earned his wife's distrust, he has done everything he can to make amends.
- Proctor is a victim of Abigail's jealousy and desire for revenge, as well as the girls' desire to protect themselves against accusations of witchcraft. Abigail and the girls' manipulation of the court officials creates an environment in which innocent people like Proctor are undeservedly punished.
- People such as the Putnams take advantage of the hysteria and superstition that prevail in the village. Because Proctor exposes their ulterior motives, he becomes their scapegoat.
- Mary's failure to tell the court the truth about the dancing increases Proctor's frustration and he denounces the court, resulting in his arrest.
- Proctor's sense of justice causes him to speak up for those who are accused.
- Proctor has spoken out openly against Parris and has not attended church regularly. He becomes the subject of Parris's vindictiveness.
- Proctor's execution is a result of the court officials' being too proud to admit that their judgment has been flawed.
- Proctor's protection of his 'name' results in his refusal to make a false confession and leads to his execution.
- Puritanism, the theocratic system, hysteria, paranoia, intolerance and perversion of religion contribute in varying degrees to Proctor's demise.

Agree:

- Proctor's affair and his continuing flirtation with Abigail cannot be condoned. He is responsible for giving her false hope and contributing to her desire to seek revenge.
- His pride and his desire to protect his reputation lead him to remain silent about the affair. He also knows that the girls are lying but he cannot expose them without implicating himself. This contributes to the hysteria in the village and ultimately to his demise.
- Proctor can be accused of foolish stubbornness. His self-sacrifice is unnecessary. If he had signed the confession, he could have remained alive and helped the village restore justice and reason.

[Credit mixed responses/valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1 Parris is afraid because his daughter and his niece have been implicated in activities that are allegedly demonic. He fears that his reputation as the minister in Salem will be tarnished and that his position will be compromised.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.2 Tituba is a black slave and therefore at the very bottom of the social hierarchy. Society does not expect that Hale be kind to her. She would expect to be spurned, so Hale's compassion and respectful treatment are surprising. Furthermore, she has been implicated in witchcraft and judged by everyone else and would be expecting the same treatment from Hale.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.3 Hale is proud of his 'scientific knowledge' of witchcraft and is excited to put this knowledge on display. His pride obscures his reason. His arrogant attitude contributes to his being unable to think logically, and he perceives the signs of witchcraft everywhere. He sees himself as the villagers' saviour and relishes the power and status this affords him. He considers himself magnanimous in his treatment of Tituba.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.4 The fact that Hale empowers Tituba persuades the other young, unmarried girls who have no status in Salem to accuse others of witchcraft as a means of gaining power for themselves. The girls realise that they can escape punishment for their misdeeds. They suddenly become important and have the opportunity to wield influence in the village. Their newly discovered power unleashes their desire for revenge/retribution. They will do anything to protect their new status.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.5 Danforth's eyes are narrowing because he realises he is not going to get what he wants from Proctor. Without Proctor's confession, it will be more difficult to persuade the other condemned prisoners to 'confess' and thus ensure their freedom. His facial expression reflects his displeasure and annoyance at Proctor's defiance. He is scrutinising Proctor's response and might be trying to intimidate him into submission/providing the answers for which he is hoping.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.6 The victims are given the opportunity to confess to witchcraft. This confession would save their lives. The irony is that Danforth claims not to have the authority to pardon Proctor, yet he does have the power.

**OR**

A further irony is that, despite the claim that he will not reward a lie, Danforth does actually pressure Proctor to lie. In fact, he has already rewarded the girls' lies.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is well discussed.] (3)

- 15.7 Rebecca is a highly respected member of Salem village. She is wise, benevolent and virtuous. She is a role model and stands for what is right. Danforth is determined to find incontrovertible proof of her guilt before her execution in order to safeguard the position of the court. A confession from such a person would also seem to justify the court's actions.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.8 Yes.  
Proctor is being asked to betray his conscience. His being able to see through the unrighteousness of the people around him adds to his intense hatred, anger and frustration. He does not want the legacy of his good name destroyed. He feels forced into making an untenable decision, choosing his name over his life and happiness.

[A cogent 'No' answer is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Credit mixed responses/valid alternative responses.]

[Award 4 marks for any three ideas well discussed OR any four distinct ideas.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

The characters in *The Crucible* are driven by self-interest rather than concern for others.

Critically discuss the extent to which you agree with the above statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

PROCTOR	( <i>wide-eyed</i> ): Oh, it is a black mischief.	
ELIZABETH	I think you must go to Salem, John. ( <i>He turns to her.</i> ) I think so. You must tell them it is a fraud.	
PROCTOR	( <i>thinking beyond this</i> ): Aye, it is, it is surely.	
ELIZABETH	Let you go to Ezekiel Cheever – he knows you well. And tell him what she said to you last week in her uncle's house. She said it had naught to do with witchcraft, did she not?	5
PROCTOR	( <i>in thought</i> ): Aye, she did, she did. ( <i>Now, a pause.</i> )	
ELIZABETH	( <i>quietly, fearing to anger him by prodding</i> ): God forbid you keep that from the court, John. I think they must be told.	10
PROCTOR	( <i>quietly, struggling with his thought</i> ): Aye, they must, they must. It is a wonder they do believe her.	
ELIZABETH	I would go to Salem now, John – let you go tonight.	
PROCTOR	I'll think on it.	
ELIZABETH	( <i>with her courage now</i> ): You cannot keep it, John.	15
PROCTOR	( <i>angering</i> ): I know I cannot keep it. I say I will think on it!	
ELIZABETH	( <i>hurt, and very coldly</i> ): Good, then, let you think on it. ( <i>She stands and starts to walk out of the room.</i> )	
PROCTOR	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. She told it to me in a room alone – I have no proof for it.	20
ELIZABETH	You were alone with her?	
PROCTOR	( <i>stubbornly</i> ): For a moment alone, aye.	
ELIZABETH	Why, then, it is not as you told me.	25
	...	
PROCTOR	( <i>with a violent undertone</i> ): You doubt me yet?	
ELIZABETH	( <i>with a smile, to keep her dignity</i> ): John, if it were not Abigail that you must go to hurt, would you falter now? I think not.	

[Act 2]



- 15.1 Refer to line 2: 'I think you must go to Salem, John.'  
Account for Elizabeth's insistence that Proctor go to Salem. (3)
- 15.2 Suggest reasons for Proctor's '*thinking beyond this*' (line 4). (3)
- 15.3 Refer to line 1: 'Oh, it is a black mischief.'  
Discuss the accuracy of Proctor's assessment in the context of the play as a whole. (3)
- 15.4 Comment on the irony of Proctor's referring to Abigail as 'a saint now' (line 20). (3)
- 15.5 Refer to line 26: 'You doubt me yet?'  
In your view, is Proctor's sensitivity justified? Substantiate your response. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT J**

ELIZABETH	( <i>quietly</i> ): Let me speak with him, Excellency.	
PARRIS	( <i>with hope</i> ): You'll strive with him? ( <i>She hesitates.</i> )	
DANFORTH	Will you plead for his confession or will you not?	
ELIZABETH	I promise nothing. Let me speak with him.	
	<i>A sound – the sibilance of dragging feet on stone. They turn.</i>	5
	<i>A pause. HERRICK enters with JOHN PROCTOR. His wrists are chained. He is another man, bearded, filthy, his eyes misty as though webs had overgrown them. He halts inside the doorway, his eye caught by the sight of Elizabeth. The emotion flowing between them prevents anyone from speaking for an instant. Now HALE, visibly affected, goes to Danforth and speaks quietly.</i>	10
HALE	Pray, leave them, Excellency.	
DANFORTH	( <i>pressing Hale impatiently aside</i> ): Mr Proctor, you have been notified, have you not? (PROCTOR is silent, staring at Elizabeth.) I see light in the sky, Mister; let you counsel with your wife, and may God help you turn your back on Hell. (PROCTOR is silent, staring at Elizabeth.)	15
HALE	( <i>quietly</i> ): Excellency, let –	
	DANFORTH brushes past Hale and walks out. HALE follows.	
	...	
	PARRIS, from a safe distance, offers:	
PARRIS	If you desire a cup of cider, Mr Proctor, I am sure I – (PROCTOR turns an icy stare at him, and he breaks off. PARRIS raises his palms toward Proctor.) God lead you now. (PARRIS goes out.)	20

[Act 4]

- 15.6 Refer to line 2: '(with hope) You'll strive with him?'  
Account for Parris's feeling of 'hope' at this stage of the play. (3)
- 15.7 Refer to lines 13–16: 'Mr Proctor, you have ... back on Hell.'  
Comment on Danforth's tone in these lines. (3)
- 15.8 Refer to the following lines:  
*'Now HALE, visibly affected, goes to Danforth and speaks quietly.'*  
(lines 10–11)  
*'HALE Pray, leave them, Excellency.'* (line 12)  
*'HALE (quietly): Excellency, let –'* (line 17)  
Critically discuss, in the context of the play as a whole, how these lines influence your attitude to Hale. (4)  
**[25]**
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples must be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

- The girls need to protect themselves from punishment. Hale's attitude helps them realise that confessing will enable them to escape whipping.
- They are encouraged to accuse others. This diverts attention from their activities in the woods. The girls are remorseless in their accusations and people fall victim to their vindictiveness.
- Abigail threatens the girls with death if they should tell the truth. The girls relish their newly-gained power and collude to entrench it.
- Abigail is prepared to sacrifice Elizabeth to satisfy her desire for Proctor. She uses the poppet that Mary Warren takes home to fake the black magic spell that Elizabeth has supposedly cast.
- Mary Warren condones and supports Abigail's plans to destroy Elizabeth and to avoid the consequences of their actions in the woods. When she tries to expose Abigail, she is attacked in court. In order to save herself, she eventually accuses Proctor of planning the destruction of the court.
- The Putnams and others join the frenzy and accuse villagers to satisfy their greed for land; they also exact vengeance for past grievances.
- Parris is more concerned with protecting his reputation than exposing the truth. He summons Hale to disprove witchcraft so as to avoid having to explain his daughter's and his niece's involvement with such nefarious activities. He uses the trials to hide his deception as well as his vindictiveness toward Proctor.
- Parris wants Hale to disprove witchcraft, but is happy to participate once he realises he stands to gain from the situation.
- Hale's arrogance and determination to discover witchcraft encourage the hysteria.
- To appease his conscience, Hale encourages the accused to condemn themselves by making false confessions.
- Proctor initially says nothing about his adultery and his knowledge of Abigail's deception as he is afraid of exposure and the loss of his reputation.
- Danforth and the court officials enjoy their fame and power and are too proud to admit they have been deceived. They rely on Elizabeth to persuade Proctor to confess, hoping that others will follow suit.
- On the other hand, Elizabeth has noble intentions and lies to protect Proctor.
- Even after Elizabeth has been granted a reprieve, Proctor remains in court to save his friends.
- On the one hand, Proctor, Rebecca Nurse and Giles's refusal to confess might be interpreted as sacrificing their family's well-being in order to serve their own interests. However, on the other hand, their refusal might be interpreted as selfless.

[Credit mixed responses/valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1 There are many rumours about witchcraft. Elizabeth is aware that the situation has spiralled out of control since many innocent people have been arrested. She wants Proctor to go to Salem to restore sanity, since Abigail has told him that they were merely indulging in 'sport'. Proctor is respected in the village and his voice will have credibility.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.2 Proctor knows that Abigail is determined to revive their affair and that she is vindictive. Proctor is concerned about the repercussions of exposing Abigail as a fraud. She could turn on him and expose him as an adulterer if he were to discredit her. His name/reputation is important to him and he does not want to lose the respect of the villagers.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.3 Proctor is concerned that the malicious behaviour of the girls will lead to tragedy. The girls have evil intent. Although at first their intention is simply to escape punishment, they exploit the growing hysteria so as to exercise power for its own sake and to take revenge. It is not only the girls who indulge in witchcraft accusations: many of the other villagers also make use of the hysteria to wreak revenge on enemies, satisfy their greed and entrench their power.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

(3)

- 15.4 Proctor realizes that Abigail is now viewed by the villagers as a saintly, righteous person, who deserves to be honoured for her holiness and dedication to her religion. However, Abigail is a devious, scheming young woman who has had an affair and is determined to destroy Elizabeth in order to resume her affair with Proctor. She is also responsible for the execution of people for alleged witchcraft. It is ironic that Abigail is considered to be an upholder of religious practice, while she is actually attacking/destroying the religious foundation of the town.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is well discussed.]

(3)

- 15.5 Yes. Proctor has done what he can to reassure Elizabeth that the affair is over and has been very patient with Elizabeth's coldness toward him. He deserves to regain her trust.

**OR**

No. his sensitivity is not justified because he does enjoy Abigail's attention when he visits Parris's house to see what the furor is about. Eventually he does push Abigail away. He has not been honest with Elizabeth and has not told her that he was alone with Abigail for a while.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.]

[Candidates might agree or disagree or have a mixed response.]

(3)

- 15.6 Parris is concerned about his position in Salem. The fame he enjoyed during the height of the accusations has faded and he has received a death threat. The villagers have turned on him now that respectable people like Proctor and Rebecca Nurse have been condemned. He is keen for Elizabeth to convince Proctor to 'confess' to witchcraft so that Proctor can be saved from hanging. Parris is hopeful that other condemned prisoners will follow suit and that this will reduce the anger of the villagers. These confessions would absolve him of guilt and justify his stance on the accusations of witchcraft.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.7 Danforth's tone is threatening and aggressive, reminding Proctor that he will be hanged at sunrise. Danforth is aware that the court has been deceived, but the court officials are too proud to admit their mistakes. There is a note of desperation in Danforth's tone when he presses Proctor to confess because this confession will absolve the court of liability.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.8 Initially, one might feel frustrated with Hale's refusal to see the obvious. When he arrives in Salem, Hale truly believes in his power to expose witchcraft – he has the books to 'prove' his 'scientific' knowledge. Hale is reluctant to admit that he has been deceived.

In these lines, Hale is pleading on behalf of Proctor. He wants Danforth to show compassion for Proctor's plight. At this point, one might feel sympathy for Hale when he realises that he has been misled by the girls and that his unremitting attitude has betrayed many innocent people, condemning them to their deaths. One might recognise Hale's tireless efforts to rescue the innocent victims. However, it is also possible to feel indifferent to and enjoy Hale's emotional distress.

[Award 4 marks only if the candidate refers to his/her attitude and to the play as a whole.]

[Credit mixed responses/valid alternative responses.] (4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – ARTHUR MILLER**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

In *The Crucible*, Miller portrays a society whose misfortunes are caused by deception and conspiracy.

Critically discuss this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****OR****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

PARRIS:	( <i>to the point</i> ) Abigail, is there any other cause than you have told me, for your being discharged from Goody Proctor's service? I have heard it said, and I tell you as I heard it, that she comes so rarely to the church this year for she will not sit so close to something soiled. What signified that remark?	5
ABIGAIL:	She hates me, uncle, she must, for I would not be her slave. It's a bitter woman, a lying, cold, snivelling woman, and I will not work for such a woman!	
PARRIS:	She may be. And yet it has troubled me that you are now seven month out of their house, and in all this time no other family has ever called for your service.	10
ABIGAIL:	They want slaves, not such as I. Let them send to Barbados for that. I will not black my face for any of them! ( <i>With ill-concealed resentment at him.</i> ) Do you begrudge my bed, uncle?	
PARRIS:	No – no.	15
ABIGAIL:	( <i>in a temper</i> ) My name is good in the village! I will not have it said my name is soiled! Goody Proctor is a gossiping liar! ( <i>Enter MRS ANN PUTNAM. She is a twisted soul of forty-five, a death-ridden woman, haunted by dreams.</i> )	
PARRIS:	( <i>as soon as the door begins to open</i> ) No – no, I cannot have anyone. ( <i>He sees her, and a certain deference springs into him, although his worry remains.</i> ) Why, Goody Putnam, come in.	20
MRS PUTNAM:	( <i>full of breath, shiny-eyed</i> ) It is a marvel. It is surely a stroke of hell upon you.	

[Act 1]

15.1 Account for Abigail's 'being discharged from Goody Proctor's service' (line 2). (3)

15.2 'They want slaves, not such as I' (Line 12).

Explain what these words reveal about Abigail's attitude towards her position in Salem. (3)

15.3 Refer to line 17: Comment on the irony of Abigail's reference to Elizabeth as 'a gossiping liar'. (3)

15.4 Refer to the stage directions in line 18: '*She is a twisted soul*'.

Based on your knowledge of the play as a whole, comment on the description of Mrs Putnam as 'twisted'. (3)

### AND

#### EXTRACT B

DANFORTH: Do you sport with me? You will sign your name or it is no confession, Mister! (*His breast heaving with agonized breathing, PROCTOR now lays the paper down and signs his name.*)

PARRIS: Praise be to the Lord!

PROCTOR *has just finished signing when DANFORTH reaches for the paper. But PROCTOR snatches it up, and now a wild terror is rising in him, and a boundless anger.* 5

DANFORTH: (*perplexed, but politely extending his hand*): If you please, sir.

PROCTOR: No.

DANFORTH: (*as though Proctor did not understand*): Mr Proctor, I must have – 10

PROCTOR: No, no. I have signed it. You have seen me. It is done! You have no need for this.

PARRIS: Proctor, the village must have proof that –

...

PROCTOR: You will not use me! I am no Sarah Good or Tituba, I am John Proctor! You will not use me! It is no part of salvation that you should use me! 15

DANFORTH: I do not wish to –

PROCTOR: I have three children – how may I teach them to walk like men in the world, and I sold my friends?

DANFORTH: You have not sold your friends –

PROCTOR: Beguile me not! I blacken all of them when this is nailed to the church the very day they hang for silence! 20

DANFORTH: Mr Proctor, I must have good and legal proof that you –

PROCTOR: You are the high court, your word is good enough! Tell them I confessed myself; say Proctor broke his knees and wept like a woman; say what you will, but my name cannot – 25

[Act 4]

15.5 Account for Danforth's 'agonized breathing' (line 2). (3)

15.6 Why does Proctor snatch up the confession (line 6)? (3)



- 15.7 Refer to lines 14–15: 'You will not ... should use me!'
- If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actor to deliver these lines? Pay particular attention to body language and tone. Motivate your instructions. (3)
15. 8 Abigail (in EXTRACT A, line 16) and Proctor, (in EXTRACT B, line 25) make reference to 'name'.
- Comment critically on these contrasting perceptions of 'name'. (4)
- [25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

Deception and conspiracy lie at the heart of Salem's problems. Corruption leads to the near-destruction of that society. The obsession with witchcraft contributes to its misfortune. Characters employ deception to disguise their greed and hidden agendas.

- Proctor and Abigail are deceptive in hiding their affair. This conspiracy, which includes Elizabeth (she lies to save Proctor), allows Abigail to gain power in Salem.
- Parris uses deceit to hide the girls' activities. He is concerned with self-preservation. He uses the trials to hide his deception and vindictiveness towards Proctor. Parris wants Hale to disprove witchcraft, but is happy to participate once he realises he stands to gain from the situation.
- Although Hale does not set out to deceive, he enjoys and in effect abuses his 'expert' status.

Conspiracy is used to take revenge and for personal gain/selfish reasons.

- The Putnams are guilty of conspiracy: Mrs Putnam conspires with the girls to discover the reason for the deaths of her children. The girls' activities in the woods set the destruction in motion. Because of his greed for land, Mr Putnam conspires with his daughter.
- Abigail conspires against Elizabeth to win back Proctor. She casts the spell in the woods and plants the needle in the doll, leading to Elizabeth's arrest.
- Abigail and the girls conspire to protect themselves from accusations of witchcraft and later to exact revenge and exercise power over those who have oppressed them.
- The girls' machinations against Mary result in Mary's accusing Proctor of being in league with the devil.
- People are helpless in the face of conspiracy. Those who try to expose the conspiracy and intrigue are faced with court officials who plot to maintain their power. Giles Corey exposes Putnam's use of his daughter to accuse Jacobs, but is arrested for contempt of court and will die under torture. Danforth and Hathorne's collusion is based on their need to maintain power and respect. They conspire to preserve the appearance of justice.
- To solidify their reputations, people accuse others of wrongdoing.

[Candidates might argue that the girls are merely typical teenagers and that events are set in motion as a result of their fear of reprisal. Candidates might also refer to the paranoia and hysteria engendered by an extremist belief system.]

[Both aspects of the question i.e. deception and conspiracy, must be addressed in order to receive more than 60%.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1 Abigail, a maid in the Proctor household, has had an affair with John Proctor. The affair has been discovered by Elizabeth, who no longer wants Abigail in her household.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 15.2 The word, 'slave' has connotations of the lowest status. Abigail's use of the word reveals that she despises being a servant and being under the control of others. She believes she deserves to be treated with greater respect and dignity and aspires to improve her standing.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.3 Abigail lies constantly, yet she has the audacity to accuse the honest Elizabeth of lying./Abigail pretends to be moral, yet she has had an affair with a married man and has kept this secret. It is ironic that someone as immoral as Abigail should accuse someone as morally upright as Elizabeth of being a liar.

[Award 3 marks only if the irony is well discussed.] (3)

- 15.4 Mrs Putnam has a bitter and warped personality because all but one of her children have died in infancy. She is obsessed with blaming someone for their deaths. This has led to her instruction to her daughter to join the girls in casting spells in the wood. She is happy for an innocent Rebecca Nurse to be executed, as long as she has a scapegoat. She revels in and embraces the witchcraft rumours because they provide her with a supernatural explanation for her babies' deaths.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.5 Danforth has been very excited by the prospect of Proctor's confession. Because Proctor is respected in Salem, his confession will help to bring about an end to the trials as others will follow his lead and confess. This will let Danforth and the court officials off the hook. However, Proctor is reluctant to sign the confession, and Danforth is agitated because his plan will not succeed.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 Proctor is ashamed of himself. He cannot bear the thought of his confession's being revealed. He has signed against his better judgment. He does not want everyone to see his confession. It goes against his nature to be dishonest.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.7 Proctor would use an indignant/angry tone to convey his frustration/anger that they wish to use him to persuade others to confess./He feels that they do not treat him with the respect that he deserves. Proctor might point at them/beat his chest/make a fist/hit the bench to convey his frustration/indignation/anger.

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to and motivates both body language and tone.]

(3)

- 15.8 In Extract A, Abigail's reference to her reputation is a way of avoiding further questioning. She believes her adamant insistence on her reputation will satisfy Parris. Abigail is lacking in integrity and will go to any lengths to save herself. Especially because she lacks integrity, it is important for her to sustain her reputation as a worthy person.

In Extract B, Proctor's reference to his name shows a genuine concern for his reputation. He is prepared to sacrifice his life so that he can die with dignity and leave a legacy of which his children can be proud. He also does not want to denigrate the memories of those who refuse to make a false confession. His attitude is indicative of his integrity.

Abigail is prepared to lie her way out of a situation, while Proctor refuses to do so.

[Candidates must refer to both Extract A and Extract B; should they not, a maximum of 2 marks may be awarded.]

[The candidate must discuss the contrasting perceptions to be awarded 4 marks.]

[Award 4 marks for any THREE points well discussed OR any four distinct ideas.]

(4)

[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

*The Crucible* suggests that when people have supreme power, they abuse that power.

Critically discuss the validity of this statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

**[25]****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT I**

PARRIS	Now, look you, Goody Putnam, she never – ( <i>Enter THOMAS PUTNAM, a well-to-do, hard-handed landowner, near fifty.</i> ) Oh, good morning, Mr Putnam.	
PUTNAM	It is a providence the thing is out now! It is a providence. ( <i>He goes directly to the bed.</i> )	5
PARRIS	What's out, sir, what's –?	
	MRS PUTNAM <i>goes to the bed.</i>	
PUTNAM	( <i>looking down at Betty</i> ): Why, <i>her eyes</i> is closed! Look you, Ann.	
MRS PUTNAM	Why, that's strange. ( <i>To Parris.</i> ) Ours is open.	
PARRIS	( <i>shocked</i> ): Your Ruth is sick?	10
MRS PUTNAM	( <i>with vicious certainty</i> ): I'd not call it sick; the Devil's touch is heavier than sick. It's death, y'know, it's death drivin' into them, forked and hoofed.	
PARRIS	Oh, pray not! Why, how does Ruth ail?	
MRS PUTNAM	She ails as she must – she never waked this morning, but her eyes open and she walks, and hears naught, sees naught, and cannot eat. Her soul is taken, surely.	15
	PARRIS <i>is struck.</i>	
PUTNAM	( <i>as though for further details</i> ): They say you've sent for Reverend Hale of Beverly?	
PARRIS	( <i>with dwindling conviction now</i> ): A precaution only. He has much experience in all demonic arts, and I –	20
MRS PUTNAM	He has indeed; and found a witch in Beverly last year, and let you remember that.	

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Account for Ruth's being 'sick' (line 10). (3)
- 15.2 Refer to lines 21–22: 'A precaution only. ... demonic arts'.  
Explain the irony of the trust that Parris places in Hale. (3)
- 15.3 Refer to lines 11–13: 'I'd not call it sick ... forked and hoofed.'  
Discuss how this idea is used by some inhabitants of Salem to further their own interests. (3)
- 15.4 Refer to line 4: 'It is a providence the thing is out now! It is a providence.'  
Critically comment on Putnam's reference to 'providence' (i.e. God's influencing human affairs) in this line. (3)

### AND

#### EXTRACT J

DANFORTH	A little while ago you were afflicted. Now it seems you afflict others; where did you find this power?	
MARY	( <i>staring at Abigail</i> ): I – have no power.	
GIRLS	I have no power.	
PROCTOR	They're gulling you, Mister!	5
DANFORTH	Why did you turn about this past two weeks? You have seen the Devil, have you not?	
HALE	( <i>indicating Abigail and the girls</i> ): You cannot believe them!	
MARY	I –	
PROCTOR	( <i>sensing her weakening</i> ): Mary, God damns all liars!	10
DANFORTH	( <i>pounding it into her</i> ): You have seen the Devil, you have made compact with Lucifer, have you not?	
PROCTOR	God damns liars, Mary!	
	MARY utters something unintelligible, staring at Abigail, who keeps watching the 'bird' above.	15
DANFORTH	I cannot hear you. What do you say? (MARY utters again unintelligibly.) You will confess yourself or you will hang! (He turns her roughly to face him.) Do you know who I am? I say you will hang if you do not open with me!	
PROCTOR	Mary, remember the angel Raphael – do that which is good and –	20
ABIGAIL	( <i>pointing upward</i> ): The wings! Her wings are spreading! Mary, please, don't, don't –!	
HALE	I see nothing, Your Honour!	
DANFORTH	Do you confess this power! (He is an inch from her face.) Speak!	
ABIGAIL	She's going to come down! She's walking the beam!	25
DANFORTH	Will you speak!	
MARY	( <i>staring in horror</i> ): I cannot!	
GIRLS	I cannot!	

PARRIS	Cast the Devil out! Look him in the face! Trample him! We'll save you, Mary, only stand fast against him and –	30
ABIGAIL	( <i>looking up</i> ): Look out! She's coming down!	
		[Act 3]

- 15.5 Discuss what Proctor's comments in this extract (lines 5, 13 and 20) reveal about his character. (3)
- 15.6 Refer to the stage directions in lines 11, 17–18 and 24.  
Comment critically on what these stage directions indicate about Mary's role in the play. (3)
- 15.7 If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, describe how you would direct the actor playing Abigail in this extract. Motivate your answer with reference to both body language and tone. (3)
- 15.8 Examine lines 6–23: 'Why did you turn ... nothing, Your Honour!'  
Critically discuss the implications of the conflicting attitudes of Danforth and Hale, for Salem society. (4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**



**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

- Abigail and the girls are granted unusual power which goes largely unchallenged. Their recently-gained respect makes them arrogant. They abuse their power for their own selfish interests, leading to tragedy.
- The girls are prepared to protect their power at all costs, even to the extent of sacrificing innocent people. They ruthlessly exploit the villagers' superstitions and turn on anyone who dares to challenge them.
- The girls are remorseless in their accusations. They have no concern for the people they accuse, even morally upright and frail villagers like Rebecca Nurse. They conspire and target the weak, such as Mary Warren.
- Abigail is merciless and exercises tyrannical power over the girls. She has persuaded them to cast spells in the woods. She threatens them with death if they dare tell the truth. Abigail is the instigator of the attack on Mary Warren in the court.
- Abigail cruelly exploits the trials and her new-found respect. She is callously prepared to sacrifice Elizabeth to satisfy her desire for Proctor.
- Some exploit the gullibility of the other villagers to settle grudges and satisfy their greed for land. They become increasingly corrupt to feed their desire for vengeance.
- Parris is believed to be honest and immune to witchcraft. He abuses this belief to further his power and status in the village. He shamelessly sacrifices others to protect his reputation. Parris is a corrupt hypocrite who brazenly participates in the trials once he realises the advantages.
- Hale is arrogant and abuses the respect the villagers initially have for his 'scientific' knowledge of witchcraft. This single-minded and uncompromising attitude gives rise to the hysteria.
- The judges, aided and abetted by the court officials, take advantage of the fame and power they derive from the trials. They are too arrogant and selfish to show compassion when they realise they have been deceived. Instead, they callously continue the executions to protect their power and escape censure.
- Elizabeth is self-absorbed and too proud to forgive Proctor in spite of his best efforts. On the other hand, she selflessly compromises her morality, to some extent, by lying to protect Proctor.

[Credit mixed/valid alternative responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 Ruth's mother (Mrs Putnam) sends her to commune with her dead babies to find out what has caused their deaths. Ruth joins Tituba and the other girls to cast a spell in the woods. They are caught by Parris. Ruth is afraid of the repercussions and has apparently fallen ill in an attempt to escape punishment.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.2 Hale is supposedly experienced in rooting out witchcraft, yet he has 'found' only one alleged witch. Parris believes that Hale will refute the rumours of witchcraft; however, Hale is determined to find evidence of witchcraft. Parris wishes to use Hale as a safety measure to discount accusations of witchcraft, but Hale only intensifies the hysteria. On the one hand, Parris wants to use Hale as a safeguard ('precaution'), while, on the other, he will exploit Hale's fervour to uncover witchcraft. It is ironic, therefore, that Parris relies on Hale to save the situation while Hale actually exacerbates it.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.3 The inhabitants use the supposed presence of the devil to accuse others of witchcraft. The accused are helpless in the face of the accusations. The villagers use the alleged presence of evil to serve their own nasty purposes, namely revenge, as in the case of Abigail and Mrs Putnam, and/or personal gain, as in the case of Mr Putnam's wanting to grab more land.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.4 Putnam is saying that the events that are unfolding in Salem are a result of God's intervention. However, these events have been brought about by the girls who are pretending to be afflicted in order to avoid punishment for behaving contrary to Puritan values. Moreover, Putnam is a hypocrite since he is willing to use these events for material gain.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.5 Proctor is both rational and perceptive. He is outspoken and determined to stand for what is right. He has a forceful character and a passionate preference for honesty.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 Proctor brings Mary to court in an attempt to refute the girls' lies and save Elizabeth. The stage directions make it clear that Danforth does not want Mary to expose the truth since he is too arrogant to admit that he has been responsible for the execution of innocent people. Mary is intimidated by Danforth's attempts to frighten her into submission. His aggressive style of talking and body language are threatening and make her hesitant. Mary is in a position to disrupt the court proceedings and judgements, and Danforth is determined to prevent her from revealing the truth.

[Award 3 marks for any two ideas well discussed OR any three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.7 Abigail might look fearful and desperate. She might be cowering in a corner/holding her hands up to ward off the 'yellow bird'. Her face might be contorted in 'fear'. Her tone might be anxious/panicky/fearful/desperate in order to convince those present that there really is evil in the room and that Mary does have supernatural powers. Abigail has to put on a display so that the girls' deception is not exposed. Abigail's plan to destroy Elizabeth is working and she will not allow anything to thwart her.

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to and motivates both body language and tone.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Accept valid alternative responses.]

(3)

- 15.8 Hale remains logical and rational, and attempts to remind Danforth that he needs to listen objectively and maintain perspective. Danforth is arrogant and refuses to listen to reason. He adamantly perseveres in his single-minded determination to root out witchcraft.

Since Hale's advice is ignored, the implication for Salem is that the innocent people are hanged, while the girls are allowed to wield power and exact revenge on their chosen victims. The court proceedings are allowed to continue; Danforth's power and reputation increase and more lives are destroyed. The conflict leads to Hale's brief departure from Salem, which allows the hysteria to escalate unchecked.

[Award 4 marks only if the candidate has discussed both characters.]

[Award 4 marks for any three points well discussed OR any four distinct ideas.]

(4)

[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

THE CRUCIBLE – ARTHUR MILLER

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION

The Crucible is a play in which ignorance and superstition provide the perfect breeding ground for tragedy.

Critically discuss the validity of the above statement.

Your response should take the form of a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages).

[25]

OR

QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

EXTRACT A

REBECCA	Pray, John, be calm. <i>(Pause. He defers to her.)</i> Mr Parris, I think you'd best send Reverend Hale back as soon as he come. This will set us all to arguin' again in the society, and we thought to have peace this year. I think we ought rely on the doctor now, and good prayer.	5
MRS PUTNAM	Rebecca, the doctor's baffled!	
REBECCA	If so he is, then let us go to God for the cause of it. There is prodigious danger in the seeking of loose spirits. I fear it, I fear it. Let us rather blame ourselves and –	
PUTNAM	How may we blame ourselves? I am one of nine sons; the Putnam seed have peopled this province. And yet I have but one child left of eight – and now she shrivels!	10
REBECCA	I cannot fathom that.	
MRS PUTNAM	<i>(with a growing edge of sarcasm)</i> : But I must! You think it God's work you should never lose a child, nor grandchild either, and I bury all but one? There are wheels within wheels in this village, and fires within fires!	15
PUTNAM	<i>(to Parris)</i> : When Reverend Hale comes, you will proceed to look for signs of witchcraft here.	
PROCTOR	<i>(to Putnam)</i> : You cannot command Mr Parris. We vote by name in this society, not by acreage.	20
PUTNAM	I never heard you worried so on this society, Mr Proctor. I do not think I saw you at Sabbath meeting since snow flew.	
PROCTOR	I have trouble enough without I come five mile to hear him preach only hellfire and bloody damnation. Take it to heart, Mr Parris. There are many others who stay away from church these days because you hardly ever mention God any more.	25
PARRIS	<i>(now aroused)</i> : Why, that's a drastic charge!	
REBECCA	It's somewhat true; there are many that quail to bring their children –	
PARRIS	I do not preach for children, Rebecca. It is not the children who are unmindful of their obligations toward this ministry.	30

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Refer to line 1: 'Pray, John, be calm. (*Pause. He defers to her.*)'
- 15.1.1 Account for Rebecca's advising Proctor to 'be calm'. (3)
- 15.1.2 What does Proctor's positive response suggest about Rebecca's position in society? (3)
- 15.2 Refer to lines 20–21: 'We vote by name in this society, not by acreage.'
- Using this sentence as a starting point, comment on Proctor's attitude to status. (3)
- 15.3 Proctor accuses Parris of preaching 'only hellfire and bloody damnation' (line 25).
- By focusing on the reference to 'hellfire and bloody damnation', discuss the nature of justice in Salem. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT B**

PROCTOR	It is not a child. Now hear me, sir. In the sight of the congregation she were twice this year put out of this meetin' house for laughter during prayer.	
DANFORTH	( <i>shocked, turning to Abigail</i> ): What's this? Laughter during – !	
PARRIS	Excellency, she were under Tituba's power at that time, but she is solemn now.	5
GILES	Aye, now she is solemn and goes to hang people!	
DANFORTH	Quiet, man.	
HATHORNE	Surely it have no bearing on the question, sir. He charges contemplation of murder.	10
DANFORTH	Aye. ( <i>He studies Abigail for a moment, then</i> ) Continue, Mr Proctor.	
PROCTOR	Mary, now tell the Governor how you danced in the woods.	
PARRIS	( <i>instantly</i> ): Excellency, since I come to Salem this man is blackening my name. He –	
DANFORTH	In a moment, sir. ( <i>To Mary Warren, sternly, and surprised.</i> ) What is this dancing?	15
MARY	I – ( <i>she glances at Abigail who is staring down at her remorselessly. Then, appealing to Proctor</i> ) Mr Proctor –	
PROCTOR	( <i>taking it right up</i> ): Abigail leads the girls to the woods, Your Honour, and they have danced there naked –	20
PARRIS	Your Honour, this –	
PROCTOR	( <i>at once</i> ): Mr Parris discovered them himself in the dead of night! There's the 'child' she is!	
DANFORTH	( <i>it is growing into a nightmare, and he turns, astonished, to Parris</i> ): Mr Parris –	25

[Act 3]

- 15.4 Comment on the description of Abigail as 'solemn' (line 6). (3)
- 15.5 Refer to Danforth's words: 'What's this? Laughter during – !' (line 4) and 'Quiet, man' (line 8).  
Comment on the irony of Danforth's reactions in these lines. (3)
- 15.6 Refer to the stage directions in lines 17–18: '(*she glances at Abigail ... appealing to Proctor*)'.  
Critically discuss how these stage directions influence your reaction to Mary. (3)
- 15.7 The play, *The Crucible*, is characterised by irrational behaviour.  
Do you agree? Justify your response by providing evidence from the play as a whole. (4)
- [25]**
- TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 14: *THE CRUCIBLE* – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples may be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 26 for the rubric to assess this question.

Ignorance and superstition result in paranoia, hysteria and panic. This is fuelled by the Puritans' ideas of conformity and religious fanaticism.

- Hale is confident of his 'scientific' knowledge of witchcraft. He is oblivious of people's exploitation of the situation. The ignorant, superstitious villagers believe in his scientific ability to detect witchcraft.
- The villagers' ignorance means that Tituba is easily accepted as a witch.
- Parris wants Salem to remain ignorant of Abigail and his daughter's activities in order to protect his reputation. He exploits the superstition surrounding witchcraft to affirm his status in Salem and to exact revenge on Proctor. His actions contribute to the tragedy.
- The judges are initially unaware of the ulterior motives of people and allow them to exploit the situation to their own advantage, resulting in the executions of the innocent.
- Hathorne is an ignorant judge who denies any new developments regarding witchcraft. He and Danforth contribute to the tragedy of injustice. The court assumes guilt without reviewing the evidence. People like John Proctor, Giles Corey and Rebecca Nurse are unjustly executed because the judges are too proud to admit that they have erred. Rebecca's execution is based solely on the selfish accusation by the Putnams, who also exploit the ignorance and superstition of the villagers.
- Superstition and ignorance allow for the accused to show repentance by accusing others.
- Proctor is regarded as a morally upright man, yet the ignorance of the community is one of the factors that cause them to support Abigail instead.
- Abigail uses people's superstitions to accuse Elizabeth of witchcraft. Elizabeth is known to be morally upright and honest, yet the discovery of a 'poppet' is enough to condemn her. Elizabeth is ignorant of Proctor's confession and lies to save him. This leads to his arrest and unjust execution.
- The girls' dancing in the woods is supported by Mrs Putnam, who encourages her own daughter to participate. She is initially ignorant of the tragedy that will result.

[Candidates might argue that it is not only ignorance and superstition which lead to the tragedy; instead, it is the lies of Abigail and the other girls.]

[Accept mixed and/or alternative responses.]

**[25]**



**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1.1 Proctor is frustrated that the villagers have allowed the situation to grow out of proportion and have even brought in Hale, a supposed expert on witchcraft. Rebecca is concerned that Proctor's outburst will cause trouble. She wants to avoid the unpleasantness of a confrontation. She refers to the villagers' having fought in the past. Rebecca is concerned that there will be further dissent in Salem.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.1.2 Rebecca Nurse is revered in Salem. She is the voice of reason in that community. She is a moral icon and even Hale refers to her renown, which has spread to other villages.

[Consider alternative valid responses.]

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.2 Proctor's attitude is that the village is and should be democratic and that status and influence ought not to be determined by landownership or wealth in general. Proctor is the embodiment of the attitude of the play as a whole: that freedom and respect for the individual are paramount.

Proctor points out that people are supposed to be equal; that wealth does not determine or influence one's power in Salem. Proctor reminds Putnam that he is not more important than anyone else, therefore he cannot demand or use his wealth and status to exploit others.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.3 The reference to 'hellfire and bloody damnation' emphasises the harsh nature of Salem's belief system. State and Church are synonymous. Justice in Salem is preoccupied with punishment and retribution. Justice in Salem society is based on a strict religious code where pleasure is regarded as a sin. The threat of damnation hangs over citizens for the slightest transgression.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.4 The reference is inaccurate/inappropriate. There is nothing demure about Abigail. Her solemn demeanour is hypocritical and is deliberately adopted to manipulate the villagers and the judges. Abigail intimidates others. She is not a sober or serious girl. She has had an affair with Proctor. She has been dancing naked in the wood and has even tried to cast a spell to ensure Elizabeth's death. She is self-centred and is wreaking havoc in Salem.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.] (3)

- 15.5 Danforth is shocked by Abigail's laughing during prayer, but when Giles reminds Danforth that Abigail's accusations result in the execution of people, he instructs Giles to be silent. Danforth is not even prepared to entertain Giles's accusations. Danforth focuses on Abigail's childlike, seemingly innocent appearance and not on the seriousness of Giles's accusation because he does not wish Abigail to be discredited as it will reflect badly on him. It is as though the gravity of taking a human life is of no consequence.

**OR**

It is ironic that Danforth is a judge and is supposed to remain objective, yet he does not afford people the opportunity to speak out. Danforth is distracted by inconsequential issues instead of focusing on the severity of Giles's accusation. He is not prepared to listen to reason. Instead, he is determined to pursue his own interpretation of events. He is too bent on maintaining the power of his position and the reverence of the citizens.

[Award 3 marks only if irony is discussed.]

(3)

- 15.6 The audience is sympathetic toward Mary's plight. She is in the court only because of Proctor's insistence. Mary is aware of the need to do the right thing, yet she is intimidated by Abigail. She is not strong enough to stand up to Abigail, even though she badly wants to help Elizabeth. She appeals to Proctor, aligning herself with the characters with whom the audience feels sympathy.

**OR**

The audience might not be sympathetic toward Mary because she has brought this situation upon herself. She should have spoken out long ago instead of enjoying the power the trials have afforded her. She has even become defiant and insolent. She ought to have more courage/integrity so as to defy Abigail.

[Award 3 marks for three ideas or 3 marks for two ideas well discussed.]

(3)

- 15.7 The irrational behaviour is a manifestation of evil and is central to the play. However, its antithesis is equally central. The play as a whole is a struggle between destructive irrationality and notions of moral and social order and justice, rooted in reason/rationality.

Yes.

The reaction of the villagers to the girls' dancing in the forest is irrational as they immediately link the girls' behaviour to 'unnatural causes'. The Putnams have irrationally connected the deaths of their children to witchcraft and their unreasonable behaviour fuels the paranoia. The girls play to these illogical assumptions and get caught up in the hysteria of the witch hunt. Danforth does not want to admit that the court's focus is misguided. Accusations are accepted without any evidence being demanded by the villagers or the court. It is illogical to expect the accused to prove their innocence while the accuser is automatically believed.

**OR**

**THE CRUCIBLE – ARTHUR MILLER**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 14 (essay question) OR QUESTION 15 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

The female characters in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* are victims of a male-dominated society.

In a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages), critically assess the validity of this statement.

**[25]****OR****QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

PROCTOR	<i>(gently pressing her from him, with great sympathy but firmly):</i> Child –	
ABIGAIL	<i>(with a flash of anger):</i> How do you call me child!	
PROCTOR	Abby, I may think of you softly from time to time. But I will cut off my hand before I'll ever reach for you again. Wipe it out of mind. We never touched, Abby.	5
	...	
	<i>A psalm is heard being sung below.</i>	
ABIGAIL	<i>(in tears):</i> I look for John Proctor that took me from my sleep and put knowledge in my heart! I never knew what pretence Salem was, I never knew the lying lessons I was taught by all these Christian women and their covenanted men! And now you bid me tear the light out of my eyes? I will not, I cannot! You loved me, John Proctor, and whatever sin it is, you love me yet! <i>(He turns abruptly to go out. She rushes to him.)</i> John, pity me, pity me!	10
	<i>The words 'Going up to Jesus' are heard in the psalm, and BETTY claps her ears suddenly and whines loudly.</i>	15
ABIGAIL	Betty? <i>(She hurries to Betty, who is now sitting up and screaming. PROCTOR goes to Betty as ABIGAIL is trying to pull her hands down, calling 'Betty!')</i>	
PROCTOR	<i>(growing unnerved):</i> What's she doing? Girl, what ails you? Stop that wailing!	20
	<i>The singing has stopped in the midst of this, and now PARRIS rushes in.</i>	
PARRIS	What happened? What are you doing to her? Betty! <i>(He rushes to the bed, crying, 'Betty, Betty!' MRS PUTNAM enters, feverish with curiosity ...)</i>	25

[Act 1]

- 15.1 Refer to line 17: '(*She hurries to Betty, ...*)'.  
Suggest a reason for Abigail's haste to get to Betty. (3)
- 15.2 To what extent is Proctor part of the 'pretence' (line 9) of Salem? Refer to the text in support of your answer. (3)
- 15.3 Refer to the stage directions in line 20: 'PROCTOR (*growing unnerved*)' and in lines 25–26: 'MRS PUTNAM *enters, feverish with curiosity ...*'.  
Comment on the contrast between the attitudes of Proctor and Mrs Putnam towards Betty. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT B**

PROCTOR	But it is a whore's vengeance, and you must see it; I set myself entirely in your hands. I know you must see it now.	
DANFORTH	( <i>blanched, in horror, turning to Abigail</i> ): You deny every scrap and tittle of this?	
ABIGAIL	If I must answer that, I will leave and I will not come back again!	5
	DANFORTH <i>seems unsteady</i> .	
PROCTOR	I have made a bell of my honour! I have rung the doom of my good name – you will believe me, Mr Danforth! My wife is innocent, except she knew a whore when she saw one!	
ABIGAIL	( <i>stepping up to Danforth</i> ): What look do you give me? (DANFORTH <i>cannot speak</i> .) I'll not have such looks! ( <i>She turns and starts for the door.</i> )	10
DANFORTH	You will remain where you are! (HERRICK <i>steps into her path. She comes up short, fire in her eyes.</i> ) Mr Parris, go into the court and bring Goodwife Proctor out.	15
PARRIS	( <i>objecting</i> ): Your Honour, this is all a –	
DANFORTH	( <i>sharply to Parris</i> ): Bring her out! And tell her not one word of what's been spoken here. And let you knock before you enter. ( <i>Parris goes out.</i> ) Now we shall touch the bottom of this swamp. ( <i>To Proctor.</i> ) Your wife, you say, is an honest woman.	20
		[Act 3]

- 15.4 Refer to line 2: 'I know you must see it now.'  
What does Proctor assume will happen at this point in the play? (3)
- 15.5 Discuss the irony in Parris's attitude towards the witch trials. (3)

- 15.6 Refer to line 5: 'If I must ... come back again!' as well as the stage direction for Abigail in line 14: '*fire in her eyes.*'

If you were the director of a production of *The Crucible*, how would you instruct the actress to deliver her lines? Motivate your answer.

(3)

- 15.7 Comment on Danforth's use of the word, 'swamp' (line 19) to convey his attitude towards these events.

(3)

- 15.8 In your view, can Proctor be held responsible for his own death? Motivate your response.

(4)

**[25]**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 14: *THE CRUCIBLE* – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

- Salem society is theocratic and controlled by men. Because of their circumstances, the young girls gain a measure of fleeting authority. However, at the same time, they are the victims of men and other women. Their desire for revenge and power over both men and women in Salem increases the orgy of accusations of witchcraft.
- The girls dance naked in the woods because of a desire to escape from the restrictions of an oppressive male-dominated society.
- They rebel against the conformity imposed on Salem society, in which individuality is inhibited under the theocracy.
- The fact that the girls are orphans/unmarried reinforces their lowly status in Salem and their eventual desire to hold on to and increase their new-found power.
- The threat of being whipped/accused of witchcraft encourages them to turn on Salem society so as to divert blame.
- The first people to be accused by the girls are women.
- Tituba is Parris's slave and she becomes a victim of the girls' manipulations.
- Abigail has tasted power over a man during her affair with Proctor. Proctor's dismissive attitude towards her feelings, his insistence that the affair never occurred and the threat to whip her fuel her desire for revenge on Elizabeth.
- Proctor tries to control Abigail and Mary Warren by threatening them with a whipping.
- The girls' rapid rise to power sees them wielding authority over the once-powerful men, like Danforth and Hathorne.
- The girls are able to manipulate situations and twist people's words against them. They rule with fear and intimidation. They abuse their identity as women and are therefore regarded as weak and innocent. They are in a position to be vindictive.
- The girls, especially Mary Warren, become victims of Abigail's power – they all fear her as she has threatened them and they follow her lead in everything.
- The reference to women as 'Goody' ('Good Wife') clearly conveys their status and role in their society.
- Elizabeth is a meek wife who has been taught to accept the authority of men. However, after the ending of the affair, Proctor becomes her victim as she continues to punish him by refusing to forgive him.
- Elizabeth becomes the controlling force in the marriage as Proctor looks to her for guidance regarding the signing of the confession.
- At the end of the play, Elizabeth is no longer completely under the control of men as she refuses to agree to Danforth's pleas to persuade Proctor to confess to witchcraft.
- Rebecca Nurse is both a victim (of Mrs Putnam's desire for revenge) and a dominant figure. By sticking to her principles, she achieves a moral triumph over the girls and the court. In death, she is victorious over Mrs Putnam and over Danforth and Hale who try to coax her into a false confession. Proctor is filled with shame and he decides to follow the example which she has set.

**[25]**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL**

- 15.1 People have gathered at the house to witness Betty's apparent bewitchment. Abigail needs to get to Betty in a hurry since she is concerned that Betty will say something incriminating in the presence of Proctor. She needs to be close to Betty to quieten her and keep control over her. (3)
- 15.2 Proctor says, 'We never touched, Abby.' Proctor pretends that there has been no affair and that he has an unblemished reputation; however, he has just sworn that he will never touch Abigail again. He is a hypocrite: the people of Salem respect him as an honest/moral man, while he is actually an adulterer. He is not the only hypocrite in Salem. People like Parris (greed for material possessions), the girls (desire for power and status), and the Putnams (greed for land) all pretend to be something they are not. Many people in Salem have ulterior motives. (3)
- 15.3 While Proctor is shocked by Betty's appearance, Mrs Putnam is excited. Proctor is 'unnerved' – he is disturbed by Betty's appearance. He has previously dismissed the rumours as mischief. Betty's appearance appears to add credibility to the rumours of witchcraft. Mrs Putnam has worked herself into a frenzy. She is eager/desperate to see evidence of witchcraft since she wants to connect with her dead babies. If Betty is bewitched, there is a real chance that her plan for her daughter, Ruth, to make contact with her dead babies has worked. Mrs Putnam is keen to interpret Betty's plight as validation of the girls' ability to commune with spirits. (3)
- 15.4 Proctor displays confidence in the justice of the court. He assumes the court will believe that Abigail is a fraud since he has exposed her as an adulteress, liar and manipulator. He thinks all the trouble in Salem will end. Since she is the instigator of the witch-hunt, he believes her exposure will ensure an end to the madness, and the release of those who have been condemned. (3)
- 15.5 It is ironic because Parris initially wants Hale to disprove the presence of witchcraft. However, after realising the involvement of Betty and Abigail in the proceedings, he encourages and supports the accusations and the trials in order to divert attention from himself and his family. He constantly tries to remind the court of everyone's guilt and of the supposed validity of the girls' accusations. He objects to Danforth's agreeing to allow time to listen to a counter-argument or defence. It is ironic that, as a minister, he ought to be the embodiment of truth and justice, yet he encourages and condones false accusations and does his utmost to cast aspersions and suspicion on innocent people. He will do anything to prevent the truth from being exposed. (3)



- 15.6 The director would instruct the actress to sound indignant and defiant/pretend to be shocked/outraged. She might put her hands on her hips, throw her hands in the air/point at the others/at herself/bang on the table/make a fist, etc., to show that she is livid. If she is more coolly threatening, her expression and voice will be cold. She would look Danforth straight in the eyes and might put her hands on her hips, fold her arms, or put her hand on her chest.

Whenever Abigail is thwarted or disbelieved, she becomes defiant. She has learnt how to manipulate people into believing her and not doubting or questioning her words, by sounding assertive. She has learnt that instilling fear in people will make them back down.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[To earn full marks, the candidate must provide motivation.] (3)

- 15.7 The use of the word, 'swamp' conveys Danforth's disgust at the latest revelations. It suggests moral corruption. The word also conveys his uncertainty and lack of clarity. He once regarded this as a clear-cut case, but is now uncertain about events and whom to believe. His view of the situation has become clouded/murky. (3)

- 15.8 Candidates might/might not agree that Proctor is responsible for his own death. Award marks based on the quality of the argument presented by the candidate. Candidates may include the following points:

Yes.

- Proctor could have taken the easy way out and confessed to witchcraft. However, he has chosen to die since his 'name' means everything to him. He is prepared to sacrifice his life and honour for the sake of integrity. He also is concerned about the legacy he will leave his family since he wants them to be proud of their family name. Because he is aware of the injustices of the trials, he will not be swayed by Danforth's entreaty to confess. He decides to sacrifice his life to ensure that Rebecca's and Giles Corey's honourable deaths are not negated.

No.

- Proctor feels helpless. His decision is influenced by the honourable example set by Rebecca and Giles, among others. His death is the result of the hysteria of the time and the irrationality of the circumstances in which he finds himself. He feels that the control the girls have over the court allows him no option but to accept his fate, since there is no way of proving his innocence of an 'invisible crime' (witchcraft).

[Credit a mixed response.] (4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**

**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**THE CRUCIBLE – ARTHUR MILLER**

Answer EITHER QUESTION 15 (essay question) OR QUESTION 16 (contextual question).

**QUESTION 15: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

In *The Crucible*, Arthur Miller depicts how the more deplorable qualities of human nature can tear a community apart.

In a well-constructed essay of 400–450 words (2–2½ pages), critically discuss this assessment of the play.

**[25]****OR****QUESTION 16: THE CRUCIBLE – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

Read the extracts below and then answer the questions that follow.

**EXTRACT A**

PARRIS	(hushed): What book is that?	
MRS PUTNAM	What's there, sir?	
HALE	<i>(with a tasty love of intellectual pursuit):</i> Here is all the invisible world, caught, defined, and calculated. In these books the Devil stands stripped of all his brute disguises. ... Have no fear now – we shall find him out if he has come among us, and I mean to crush him utterly if he has shown his face! <i>(He starts for the bed.)</i>	5
REBECCA	Will it hurt the child, sir?	
HALE	I cannot tell. If she is truly in the Devil's grip we may have to rip and tear to get her free.	10
REBECCA	I think I'll go, then. I am too old for this. <i>(She rises.)</i>	
PARRIS	<i>(striving for conviction):</i> Why, Rebecca, we may open up the boil of all our troubles today!	
REBECCA	Let us hope for that. I go to God for you, sir.	
PARRIS	<i>(with trepidation – and resentment):</i> I hope you do not mean we go to Satan here! <i>(Slight pause.)</i>	15
REBECCA	I wish I knew. <i>(She goes out; they feel resentful of her note of moral superiority.)</i>	

[Act 1]

- 16.1 Place the above extract in context. (3)
- 16.2 Refer to lines 3–7: *(with a tasty love of intellectual pursuit): ... (He starts for the bed.)*

Is Hale's character, as revealed in these lines, consistent with his character later in the play? Motivate your response. (3)

- 16.3 Refer to lines 12–16: '*(striving for conviction) ... (Slight pause.)*'
- 16.3.1 Discuss what these lines reveal about Parris's feelings at this point in the play. (3)
- 16.3.2 By focusing on lines 12–13, discuss to what extent these words will prove to be ironic in the light of later events. (3)
- 16.4 Refer to the stage directions in lines 17–18: *(She goes out; they feel resentful of her note of moral superiority.)*
- Discuss how Rebecca's moral standard is important to an understanding of the outcome of the play. (3)

**AND****EXTRACT B**

HALE	Why, it is all simple. I come to do the Devil's work. I come to counsel Christians they should belie themselves. <i>(His sarcasm collapses.)</i>	
PARRIS	There is blood on my head! Can you not see the blood on my head!! Hush! <i>(For he has heard footsteps. They all face the door. HERRICK enters with ELIZABETH. Her wrists are linked by heavy chain, which HERRICK now removes. Her clothes are dirty; her face is pale and gaunt. HERRICK goes out.)</i>	5
DANFORTH	<i>(very politely):</i> Goody Proctor. <i>(She is silent.)</i> I hope you are hearty?	
ELIZABETH	<i>(as a warning reminder):</i> I am yet six month before my time.	
DANFORTH	Pray be at your ease, we come not for your life. We – <i>(uncertain how to plead, for he is not accustomed to it.)</i> Mr Hale, will you speak with the woman?	10

[Act 4]

- 16.5 Danforth's tone progresses from politeness to frustration in lines 8–12: '*(very politely): ... with the woman?*'
- Account for the shift in Danforth's tone. (3)
- 16.6 Refer to line 9:
- 'ELIZABETH *(as a warning reminder):* I am yet six month before my time.'
- Discuss the significance of this line in the wider context of the play. (3)
- 16.7 Refer to EXTRACT A and EXTRACT B.
- Critically discuss how Arthur Miller uses the characters of Parris and Danforth to reveal the hypocrisy of people in power in Salem. (4)

**[25]**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – ESSAY**

- Here is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following points as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- Refer to page 28 for the rubric to assess this question.

- Salem society feels the need to protect itself by applying strict rules of conformity.
- The girls' dancing unleashes the hysterical reign of terror which is exploited by certain villagers to satisfy their greed, desire for power and lust for revenge.
- In a frenzy of naming allegedly guilty people, the girls project their guilt onto the innocent.
- Hysteria seizes the girls as they realise their power in naming people.
- Suddenly, from being lowly members of Salem society, they become respected and feared.
- Their accusations are not refuted: anyone who is sceptical is accused as well, since such scepticism is regarded as a denial of God.
- Abigail, especially, uses this for her own selfish ends when she aims her wrath at Elizabeth.
- Even insignificant girls like Mary, and the slave, Tituba, become powerful. People of lowly status, like Herrick and Cheever, as officials of the court, hold sway over people's freedom. Superstition increases and each small act is perceived as a sign of witchcraft. People twist actions and words in order to gain power, take revenge or settle old grudges.
- The villagers feel perfectly justified in accusing others of witchcraft to satisfy their selfish ends and experience no remorse over their actions.
- Mrs Putnam uses the opportunity to satisfy her desire to avenge the deaths of her babies by accusing Rebecca Nurse.
- Hale takes pride in the power he enjoys while displaying his 'scientific' knowledge of witchcraft.
- Hale is so excited about exposing the alleged witches, that he loses all objectivity. His religious fervour contributes to the hysteria. His single-mindedness unleashes an orgy of accusations, superstition and fear.
- The witch-hunt is a manifestation of the panic that sets in among the villagers. Seeds of suspicion and superstition are sown.
- Greed for land is paramount and is the driving force behind some of the accusations.
- The courts, which are supposed to uphold justice, become instruments used by the villagers to accuse and condemn enemies; they exploit the justice system to exact revenge, not justice.
- Danforth and Hathorne are proud of and enjoy the power of their status as judges who uphold the law and combat the devil, yet their subjective approach encourages the hysteria of accusation and suspicion, since they believe the accusers and not the accused.
- It is only when upstanding, respected citizens are executed in the name of justice that the villagers are prepared to voice their disapproval.
- When the trials are over, many respected citizens are dead.
- The hypocrisy of Puritan society has been exposed.

**[25]**

**QUESTION 16: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL**

- 16.1 There are rumours of witchcraft in the village and the villagers have flocked to Parris's house to see Betty, one of the girls involved. Hale has been summoned by Parris to disprove the allegations of witchcraft. (3)

- 16.2 In these lines, Hale is proud, enthusiastic and filled with self-belief. He relishes his task and is confident about his ability.

His character changes radically. When he realises the injustices he has helped to perpetrate, he is devastated, deflated, defeated and guilt-stricken, and has lost his enthusiasm. He is humbled, self-critical, remorseful and repentant because of his complicity in the hysteria unleashed by his initial fervour.

[For full marks, candidates must refer to Hale's character in lines 3–7 and later in the play.] (3)

- 16.3 16.3.1 Parris resents the implication that he has no control over the girls living in his house. His concern is that he will be implicated in the girls' actions and the witchcraft, and feels the need to divert blame and attention from himself. His words reveal his concern for his reputation. He is afraid that people will point fingers at him, since he is the minister in the village and should have better control over the girls. He resents Rebecca's implication that he needs God's help. (3)

- 16.3.2 He compares the trouble in Salem to a boil which needs to be lanced. It is ironic that the exposure of the problems in Salem leads, not to healing, but to accusations which are based on a desire for vengeance, culminating in tragic consequences. (3)

- 16.4 The stage directions refer to Rebecca's moral superiority. She stands by her principles and refuses to be forced into making a false confession, as this will condemn her soul. This influences the outcome of the play as Proctor follows her example: he chooses execution in order to preserve his reputation and his soul, rather than save his own life and live as a liar. (3)

- 16.5 Danforth is initially polite since he wants to ingratiate himself with Elizabeth in an effort to use her to persuade Proctor to make a false confession.

Then he becomes frustrated when she does not respond to his polite address in the manner which he anticipates. He is offended that a mere 'woman' dares to disregard him. His arrogance accounts for his impatience with her. (3)

- 16.6 Elizabeth is afraid that she may also become a victim of the current perversion of justice; therefore she feels the urgent need to warn the authorities of her pregnancy to prevent them from executing her.

On the one hand, the rulers of Salem are largely out of control and murderous. On the other hand, there is a vestige of their Christian morality that will prevent them from killing a pregnant woman.

(3)

- 16.7 Parris is the hypocritical minister who is more concerned with status and financial security than with the welfare of his congregation. He is afraid that the girls' dancing will be interpreted as his lack of control over his niece and daughter. He summons Hale because he wants him to disprove the existence of witchcraft. When the 'discovery' of witchcraft works in his favour, he is keen to encourage the witch-hunt. His words to Rebecca reveal his hypocrisy since he does not really want anything exposed – he would prefer to keep things covered up.

Danforth tries to reassure Elizabeth that they are not keen on executing her, yet the main focus of the court has been to find people guilty and punish them. Danforth pretends that he is concerned about Elizabeth's welfare, but his main concern is to use her to persuade Proctor to confess. In that way he [Danforth] will be vindicated.

[Award full marks only if both Parris and Danforth are successfully discussed.]

(4)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**