

Jax Skorich:

May 10, 2026

Overview

Our final project is a digital breakout room focusing on *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. The purpose of the breakout room is to supplement content curriculum, particularly, for eleventh graders who are required to read *The Crucible* in most public high schools. This breakout room is designed for use in both the classroom and K-12 library settings. This resource can be used by teacher librarians in collaboration with English teachers. For example, the teacher librarian can schedule a library session with English teachers wherein students can engage in the digital breakout room. This breakout room can be used for a variety of purposes, such as reinforcing comprehension of the text, assessing students' comprehension of the text, or as an enrichment activity.

The breakout room locks were designed with the C.R.A.P. test in mind (currency, reliability, authority, and purpose/point of view). Both group members discussed each component of the C.R.A.P. test to ensure that we were evaluating our sources before incorporating them into the breakout room. We used a variety of sources when creating the breakout room, including an article about *The Crucible* found in Gale, a Ted-Ed video, an article from Slate, video footage from the Arthur Miller Society, *The Crucible* film, and direct quotes from *The Crucible*. Being deliberate about the sources we used also allowed us to expose students to the concept of the C.R.A.P. test by giving them examples of sources based on currency, reliability, authority, and purpose/point of view. Ultimately, the objective of this breakout room is to give teacher librarians and educators an opportunity to make *The Crucible* more engaging to students through gamification.





The Crucible

Escape Room

Directions: Complete the following activities. Enter your answers on the Google Form.

Historical Background

Code #1

Directions: Read the article and watch the video, then answer the questions. Type your answers in the boxes—EXCEPT the black box. Unscramble the letters highlighted in yellow to find the secret code.

Overview: The Crucible

What is McCarthyism? And how did it happen?

The Crucible is an allegory to what 1950's U.S. campaign?

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In Puritan New England, scary and unexplained events were attributed to what supernatural being?

--	--	--	--	--

By 1692, nineteen people and two dogs had been convicted and hanged for what crime?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

This play is loosely based on what kind of event?

[illegible]

What other country was a dominant power when this play was written?

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Mass Hysteria Nonfiction

Code #2

Directions: Read the article "[Mass Hysteria in Upstate New York.](#)" Then, read the questions and highlight the correct answer. The letters of the correct answers will form your code (ALL CAPS).

The writer argues, "The phenomenon has been observed for centuries, with the blame shifting to whatever specific anxieties are culturally pervasive at the time." Which of the following represents the culturally pervasive anxieties Arthur Miller represents in *The Crucible*?

- A) A fear of fungus on crops and the stress of church politics
- B) Paranoia of witchcraft and the devil and a fear of communism
- C) Anxiety about outside attacks from Native Americans
- D) Fear of one's neighbors

Which piece of evidence from the article best supports Miller's belief that the Salem Witch Trials were a result of repression?

- A) "The phenomenon has been observed for centuries, with the blame shifting to whatever specific anxieties are culturally pervasive at the time."
- B) "Some scholars have also argued that hysterical episodes allow women to take a break from daily drudgeries, or to rage against patriarchal cultures within the safe bounds of demon possession or poisoning."
- C) "Victims of mass hysteria are so often female that gender imbalance is one clue doctors use to differentiate hysteria from poisoning."
- D) "Sociologist Robert Bartholomew noted in a 2001 book on mass hysteria that girls are trained to turn their anxieties inward, while anxious boys are likelier to act out."

The last paragraph describes a case from 1789 New England. In what way is this case similar to the events of "The Crucible?"

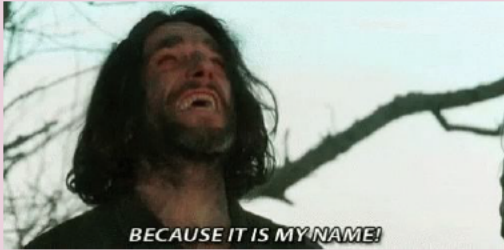
- A) Similar to the women in the factory, the girls in "The Crucible" have no outlet for leisure or self-expression, and therefore act out due to the stress of repression.
- B) The Puritan girls in "The Crucible" are overworked in the fields and want a break from their labor, similar to the women in the factory.
- C) Abby and the girls return to normal after being offered a chance to express their emotions, similar to how the women in the factory were fine after letting loose
- D) Similar to Mrs. Putnam's anxiety over the dead babies, these women acted out due to stress over their children

Allegory Matching Game

Code #3

Directions: Watch the video, ["Because it is my name!" Arthur Miller's Moral Imperative, The Crucible and Miller's HUAC Testimony.](#) Then, play the [Allegory Matching Game](#). You will need to match the character/element from "The Crucible" to the individual/element from the Red Scare/McCarthyism. When you have finished matching, put the cards in alphabetical order. Your code will be formed by the **NUMBERS** that correspond to the alphabetical order.

A.



B.



1.



2.



Accuracy Check: Match the Quote

Code #4

Match each quote to the correct speaker. Enter the name in the Google Form to unlock Purpose section.

Judge Danforth



“Because it is my name! Because I cannot have another in my life!”

Reverend Hale



“We burn a hot fire here; it melts down all concealment.”

John Proctor



“I speak my own sins; I cannot judge another.”

Enter the correct Speaker's name:

Code #4:

Purpose Check: What is the Message?

Code #5

The Crucible is an allegory. Look beyond the surface for the deeper meaning. Unscramble the letters below to reveal the historical movement Arthur Miller was critiquing. Then enter the word in the Google form to continue to the Plagiarism section.

CY SIMHARTCM

Code #5:

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HINT: This 1950s anti-communist movement is central to *The Crucible* purpose.

Plagiarism Check: Cite the Evidence

Code #6

Read the examples below. Which one correctly uses MLA in-text citation and a Works Cited entry? Enter the correct answer in the Google Form to continue.

Option A

“The Crucible shows how fear can destroy a community” (Proctor 133).

Works Cited

Proctor, John. *The Crucible*. Penguin Books, 2003.

Option B

“The Crucible shows how fear can destroy a community” (Miller 133).

Works Cited

Miller, Arthur. *The Crucible*. Penguin Books, 2003.

Option C

“The Crucible shows how fear can destroy a community.”

Works Cited

Miller, Arthur. *The Crucible*. Penguin Books, 2003.

You Resisted Hysteria!



The truth has been revealed. You passed the CRAAP Test and uncovered the truth. You escaped McCarthyism and completed The Crucible Escape Room.



You succumbed to misinformation

Hysteria is taking over.

Check your evidence and try again.



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The Crucible: Escape Room

* Indicates required question

Directions: Scan the QR code or open the slide deck. Complete each activity and enter your answers below to unlock the next section. Use the slides for clues.



1. C→Currency *

0 points

Code #1 (lowercase letters)

Unscramble the letters to get the secret code.

R→Relevance/Reliability

Code #2

Read the [article](#), then answer the questions. The letters to the correct answers will form the code.

2. Code #2 (ALL CAPS) *

0 points

A→Authority

Code #3

Watch the video, then play the [Allegory Matching Game](#). Code #3 will be formed by the **NUMBERS** that correspond to the alphabetical order.



<http://youtube.com/watch?v=CArkRt7Ua5I>

3. Code #3 *

0 points

A→Accuracy

Accurate attribution is essential for credible research. Identify the correct speaker.

4. Code #4 (Multiple Choice) *

0 points

Which of the following correctly identifies the speaker of this quote from *The Crucible*?

"Because it is my name! Because I cannot have another in my life!"

For an additional hint go to the slide.

Mark only one oval.



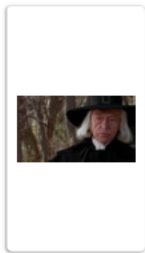
Reverend
Hale

☐

Skip to
question
4



John
Proctor

☐

Judge
Danforth

☐

Skip to
question
4

P→Purpose

Understanding an author's purpose helps determine meaning and credibility.

Watch what Arthur Miller has to say about it then enter the name of the movement below.

For an additional hint go to the slide.



http://youtube.com/watch?v=GCW_hdoKAnA

5. Code #5 (Short Answer) *

0 points

What is the true message Arthur Miller was conveying?

P→Plagiarism

Using correct MLA citation ensures sources are credited accurately.

6. Code #6 (Multiple Choice) *

0 points

Which option correctly avoids plagiarism and uses MLA citation?

For option details go to the slide.

Mark only one oval.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

[Skip to section 7 \(You Escaped Hysteria\)](#)

You Escaped Hysteria

The truth has been revealed. You passed the CRAAP Test and uncovered the truth. You escaped McCarthyism and completed The Crucible Escape Room.

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Google Forms

Jax Skorich

Project Start date: 03.27.2026

Due date: 05.10.2026

End Date: 05.06.2026

Escape room

Objective: Pass the CRAPP Test: Finding sources for legitimacy for teen research

Topics: Anything-YA trends romantasy

Tool: Gale

Escape room

4-6 locks to be safe

1. MLA citations
2. Source accuracy
3. plagiarism
- 4.

The Locks:

1. C→Currency
2. R→Relevance/Reliability
3. A→Authority
[McCarthy video Smithsonian](#)
4. A→Accuracy *slide and google form completed→need to link the slide to the google form question*
 - a. *Students only need to access the slide if they do not readily know the answer.*

Who said “ ” from the Crucible Play

A

B correct

C
5. P→purpose *slide and google form completed→need to link the slide to the google form question*

What was the main theme mainly about:

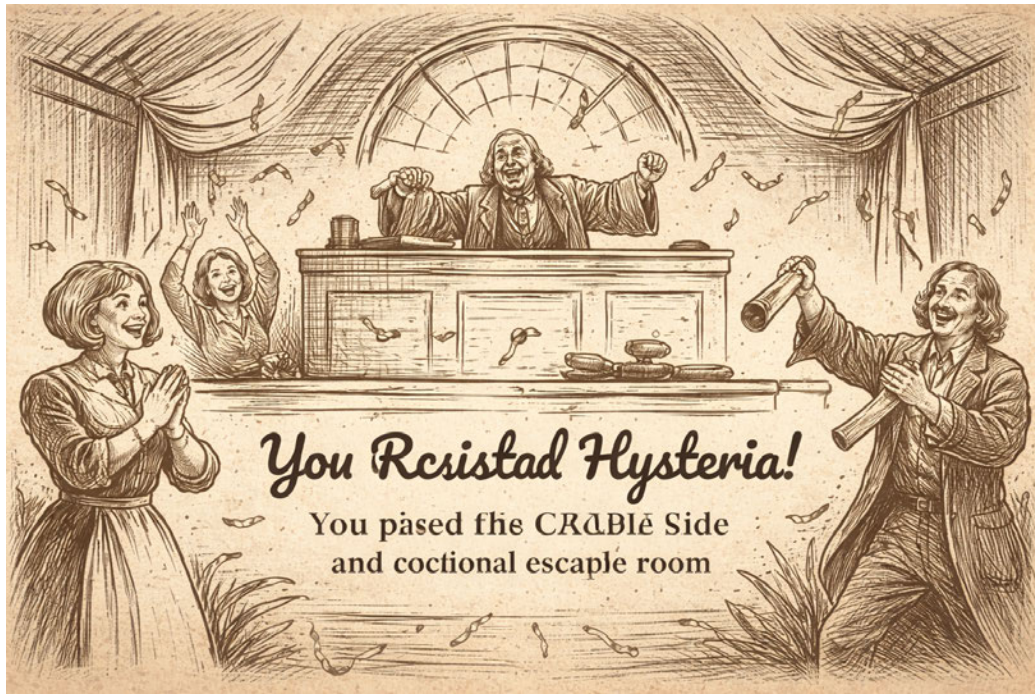
Is it about Witches or Communism

Visual aids
6. P→Plagiarism *slide and google form completed→need to link the slide to the google form question*

Quote vs a quote with in-text citation, MLA, and a trick (Proctor vs Miller)

Final Slide could read: You resisted Hysteria! (and passed the CRAAPP test)

Additional crucible meme or gif *slide created*



OpenAI. "You Resisted Hysteria" background illustration. ChatGPT, 2026. AI-generated image. Prompt: "Sepia-toned, hand-drawn line illustration in the style of a 17th-century courtroom scene inspired by The Crucible, depicting a dramatic but triumphant moment of overcoming hysteria, with a parchment texture and engraving-style detail."



Created using Canva QR code Generator and Canva sticker design.

Google Form: <https://forms.gle/HrbX4BygeoQmkULz5>

Google Slides:

