

Figure 2.2. Envisionment Builder Discussion Sheet

The Crucible Movie: Act II

Discussion and Note Guide

Part of a larger conversation on: intolerance, hysteria, and the power of the individual.

Initial understanding:

1. What are your thoughts about John and Elizabeth Proctor's relationship?
2. What are your first impressions about the trials?
3. What questions came to your mind?

Developing ideas:

1. How did your understanding of Mary Warren change throughout Act II? What do you think she will do in Act III: tell the truth or continue to lie?
2. What did you think about the way the townspeople and officials treated Abigail?
3. Why do you think citizens of Salem began arguing and becoming more hostile?
4. How does what happened to Elizabeth Proctor make you think differently about the witch trials and the afflicted girls? Think about the motivations behind accusing Mrs. Proctor.
5. What did you learn about human nature (factors that motivate human behavior: feelings, thoughts, actions) by watching Act II?

Learning from the text:

1. What social issues does *The Crucible* make you think about in society today? (Issues of discrimination? Religion? Politics?) In what ways does it confirm or change your thinking about these issues?

Taking a critical stance:

1. Which parts of the movie were especially powerful for you? Why?
2. Do you think the movie or the play paints a more accurate picture of the 1690s lifestyle of the Puritans?