

Literary Letter Assignment

(post Act I)

Part I

We know that Abigail thinks Elizabeth Proctor is “a lying, cold, sniveling woman, who is blackening her name in the village” (1240). However, what do you think Elizabeth thinks of Abigail? We know that Elizabeth fired Abigail, but we do not know much more yet. The playwright portrays Elizabeth as reserved, religious, and quiet. However, if Elizabeth was given the chance to write Abigail a letter, what exactly would she want to say to Abigail. Remember you must take on the persona of Elizabeth as you write your letter.

You will be graded on:

- 1) Capitalization, punctuation, complete sentences
- 2) Puritanical thought and diction.
- 3) Underlining your most powerful line.

Part II

Now, get with a partner. Switch letters. Read your partner’s letter. Underline the most powerful line in which you feel your partner wrote to portray Elizabeth’s true feelings about Abigail. Flip your paper over and write back to “Elizabeth” as Abigail might respond. Make sure to take on Abigail's persona as well.

Part III

Creating a Character Analysis Poem

In groups of 5, you will need to read your most powerful line – remembering that short really is sweet. If you need to pare down your line that is just fine. Next, each of you will read your line aloud, creating a base for a character analysis poem. As a group, you will need to determine the most effective order of the chosen lines in order to create this powerful analytical poem. Once you have an arrangement that is satisfying, please write your poem down as we will be sharing these with the class.