Timed Writing

ACTIVITY 2.17

Learning Targets

- Unpack and analyze writing prompts.
- Compose an analytical essay during a limited time frame.

LEARNING STRATEGIES:
Note-taking, Drafting

Timed Writing Prompts

1. Preview the following prompts for a timed writing on *The Crucible*. In the space between, you might want to jot notes to help you "unpack" the prompt and make notes where you need clarification.

2. Select one prompt to unpack and prepare a response. Although this will be considered first-draft writing, you will want to reserve some time at the end to review your piece for conventions and clarity.
   - A crucible is a severe challenge or test of one's faith. Another definition is the container used to store metals as they are melted at extremely high heats. In an essay, explain how Arthur Miller uses both of these definitions to support major themes of *The Crucible*.
   - The dying words of Giles Corey are "More weight." In an essay, explain how this character acts as a foil to Proctor's character in that Corey serves to illuminate the strengths and weaknesses of the main character.
   - There are many significant changes between the film and the play that lead to different impressions of character, setting, tone, and theme. In an essay, explain how one change between the film and play leads the reader or viewer to a different interpretation of character, theme, tone, or setting.
   - Miller interrupts Act One with commentary about the characters and the social, historical, and religious context of the play. In an essay, explain why Miller felt it necessary to give this information, though it never appears in a dramatic presentation of the play.
   - The plot of *The Crucible* consists of many battles between many opposites. In an essay, identify one such opposite and explain why Arthur Miller included it.

Timed Writing: Select one of the prompts to respond to in a timed writing. Be sure you understand what the prompt is asking you to do. Consider creating a topic outline before writing your response.

My Notes

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