

The Crucible
Task 2 Essay/Research
English 11

The Situation: Your high school English class has just finished reading Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and will be studying "witch hunts" throughout history. The class will be writing letters to the editor of the local newspaper discussing the causes and effects of such "witch hunts" on people and society both historically and in the present day. You will choose one of the historical witch hunts listed below and find ONE non-fiction article and ONE graphic (graph, chart, table, etc.) directly related to your topic in order to write your letter. You must use information from BOTH your non-fiction article and your graphic in order to discuss the causes and effects of your selected "witch hunt" and the historical significance of such events.

Your Task: Using relevant information from BOTH a non-fiction article and a graphic (related to your topic), write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper regarding the causes and effects (immediate) of your selected "witch hunt" and the historical significance of such events (effect on society).

WITCH HUNT RESOURCES AND HELPFUL TIPS

Modern Day Witch hunts – This website has information about witch hunts throughout history. Please visit this site first and choose from one of the 8 hunts OR see below for one more option.

<http://www.curriculumunits.com/crucible/whunts/huntable2.htm>

A 9th option for witch hunt research is looking into the current search for terrorists and terrorist activity. You will want to research the Patriot Act and current practices for finding, monitoring, labeling, and trying both suspected and convicted terrorists in our country.

Once you've decided on your research topic, you must find one non-fiction article and one graphic to use as references for writing your essay. Conduct internet searches using the place/time you've chosen or refer to the following websites as starting places:

<http://www.turkishweekly.net/news.php?id=40162> – Armenian/Turkish Conflict

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4497519.stm> -- Armenian/Turkish Conflict

<http://www.ushmm.org/> -- Holocaust and several others – poke around this site no matter which witch hunt you choose!

<http://www.wiesenthal.com/site/pp.asp?c=fwLYKnN8LzH&b=242023> – Holocaust and other witch hunts – again, check this site out no matter which witch hunt you choose!

http://www.gendercide.org/case_witchhunts.html -- historical background of hunts and some information on modern day hunts – This might give you some ideas for further research.

http://www.gendercide.org/case_bosnia.html -- Bosnia

http://www.gendercide.org/case_armenia.html -- Armenia

http://www.gendercide.org/case_jews.html -- Holocaust

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1881JC-pogroms.html> -- Pogroms

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/database/mccarthyism.html> -- McCarthy

http://www.teacheroz.com/Japanese_Internment.htm -- Japanese Internment

<http://www.umaine.edu/canam/ham/acadiansettlement.htm> -- Acadian deportation

<http://www.apartheidmuseum.org/> -- Apartheid

Guidelines:

Be sure to

- Tell your audience what they need to know about your selected witch hunt, its causes and effects (immediate) and its historical significant (effects on society – then and now)
- Discuss effective methods for combating such witch hunts
- Use specific, accurate, and relevant information from the non-fiction article and the graphic to support your claims
- Use a tone and level of language appropriate for a letter to the editor of a newspaper
- Organize your ideas in a logical and coherent manner
- Indicate any words taken directly from the text by using quotation marks or referring to the author
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

