

— DOCUMENT QUESTIONS —

DOCUMENT 1

1. How many people were put to death in Salem?
2. What generalizations can you make about the people hanged in Salem?

DOCUMENT 2

1. What does the author say about the presence of evil spirits in Salem?
2. Would this author have been taken seriously at the time the document was written?
3. Why is the date of this source significant?

DOCUMENT 3

1. Who are the central figures in this painting:
 - a. the bare backed lady?
 - b. the pointing young lady?
 - c. the man in black with a skull cap?
 - d. the fainting girl?
2. In what year was this painting made?
3. Where might the artist have gotten his ideas for the painting?

DOCUMENT 4

1. What generalization(s) can you make about the accused witches?
2. What generalization(s) can you make about the accusers?
3. Based on this document alone, what inference could be made as to why people were hanged at Salem?

DOCUMENT 5

1. Who is in the room when this examination is being conducted?
2. What appears to influence the behavior of the "afflicted girls"?
3. Does this record support the theory that the girls were lying? Why or why not?

DOCUMENT 6

1. What is the main point of this paragraph by Charles Upham?
2. Do you think Upham might have seen Document 5?
3. Is Document 6 a primary or secondary source? Does that make a difference in the value of the document?

DOCUMENT 7

1. In general terms, what is hysteria?
2. How might hysteria have influenced the 'afflicted girls' behavior?
3. How does this document differ from the theory in Documents 5 and 6?

DOCUMENT 8

1. What is ergot and how is it being connected to the issues at Salem?
2. How does this document connect with document 7?
3. What connections could you draw between this document and document 9?

DOCUMENT 9

1. What are the "A"s, what are the "D"s, and what are the "W"s?
2. According to this document, what might explain the hangings at Salem?

— FINAL ESSAY ON SALEM WITCH TRIALS —

There are several steps to forming an educated opinion based essay:

1. Read the Background Essay. It gives an overview of the Salem story.
2. Read the documents AND answer all the questions.
3. Organize all of the documents into common themes or theories. All the documents relate to the Salem trials but some documents “link” together better than others to create a common idea or theory.
4. After organizing all the documents, narrow your theories to one or two reasons for **“What caused the Salem Witch Trial Hysteria of 1692?”**
5. Prioritize your reasons. What is the most important? What is second?
6. Explain your priorities. Why is one reason more important than another?
7. Back up your reasons/theories with evidence from the documents.

CONSIDER THIS INFO WHEN CONSTRUCTING YOUR ESSAY:

<i>Length</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This essay should be 1 FULL PAGE TYPED, NO DOUBLE SPACES, NO PARAGRAPH SPACES. • Have an introduction paragraph, 3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion paragraph.
<i>Introduction</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions should be more than just a thesis • To develop introductions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Utilize the background information to set the stage of the topic. ○ Thesis should be evident
<i>Body Paragraphs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each paragraph needs a topic sentence • Evidence needs to be present. An ideal situation is at least 3 pieces of evidence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use quotes from the documents (not the background essay) ○ Summarize and/or paraphrase longer text or visual documents • Links: Should do two things - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explain the evidence in your own words ○ Explain how the evidence proves that your claim as related to the topic sentence and thesis of your essay • A concluding sentence should help bring together your claim in each paragraph and serve as a transition to the next claim.
<i>Quality of Arguments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the question being asked!!! • Must explain how each piece (or group) of evidence PROVES your claim as related to the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Example: How does a piece of evidence prove that religion was the cause of the hysteria? ○ Example: How does document 5 help prove the theory that age/gender was the cause of the hysteria?
<i>Grammar & Usage</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-edit: Read aloud your own writing. . . Are there any missing words? Are there areas where things aren't so clear? . . . FIX!! • There, Their, They're . . . Make sure you are using these words appropriately