English 10: *The Crucible* Prior Knowledge Facts

McCarthyism

1. Who was Senator Joe McCarthy? How did he rise to achieve his power? Roughly how long did the era of McCarthyism last? (From when to when?)

2. What was the political backdrop for McCarthy's accusations? Why were his charges taken so seriously?

3. What was HUAC? What did it do? When did it begin and end?

4. What sorts of people or groups were often the focus of HUAC investigations and charges?

5. What was the Hollywood blacklist? How many people were affected? How? Who?

Arthur Miller

1. Where did Arthur Miller grow up? Where did he go to college?

2. What type of writing did Miller use in most of his works? Name two other well-known works of his.

3. What famous actress was Arthur Miller married to? Is Miller living or dead?

4. <u>When</u> and <u>why</u> was Miller called before the House Committee on Un-American Activities? How did he respond? What happened to him as a result? Provide an overview of his experience.

5. What was Miller's basis for writing "The Crucible"? How is he like John Proctor, the main character?