

SOME SAMPLE SENTENCES FROM *THE CRUCIBLE PAPERS*

Use these examples to help you compose your own sentences for your thesis paper. Do not use these exact sentences; instead, pick and choose word and phrases from among them to build your own paragraphs.

BROAD OPENING STATEMENTS:

1. Without responsible actions there can be no order.
2. A person's pride should never get in the way of personal responsibility.
3. Hysteria, plain and simple, has caused some of the most dreadful and seemingly endless persecutions of all time.
4. When the people of a society neglect responsibility, then they are subject to blame and persecution.
5. One of mankind's greatest challenges is to defend its own beliefs.
6. Every person has to take responsibility for his own actions.
7. Being true to oneself is the most virtuous act.
8. A community is supposed to be a secure place to live.
9. Life presents us with very hard—and many times unfair—choices.
10. Few people are able to put their needs second to those of humanity.
11. A woman's power has nothing to do with brute strength.
12. Not all laws are good for society.
13. Unresolved transgressions terminate in the same fashion as do untended wounds—they fester and then become infected.
14. Selfishness is one of the many evils in man, perhaps the worst.

THESIS STATEMENTS:

1. Fear of community pressures forces leaders to administer the law without regard for human welfare.
2. In order to maintain one's dignity, one must assume the responsibility for his actions whatever the outcome.
3. While the majority withdraws from its own demise, a few people, including John Proctor, believe that the greatest responsibility of mankind is to stand firm for what the individual honestly believes to be the only morally acceptable choice.
4. One must fulfill his obligations to himself, regardless of the cost.
5. Devotion to one's own code of ethics should supersede one's loyalty to the community.
6. Leaders contribute to the disintegration of a society when they exploit their power.
7. When one puts his personal needs ahead of his family, he ends up destroying what he has.
8. Man, in no way, can ignore nor isolate his responsibility or duty to establish truth and justice in the face of turmoil and sacrifice.

METHOD STATEMENTS:

1. John Proctor pays the ultimate price because he chooses to protect himself, his friends and his community from ridicule, humiliation and persecution.
2. John Proctor does this by adhering to his principles, breaking with the community, and dying with self-respect.
3. John Proctor's beliefs morally force him to try to preserve the integrity of Rebecca Nurse and to abolish the lies created by the Puritan children.
4. Giles Corey, in being responsible for his family, does not answer the court, suffers punishment, and ultimately stands by his pride.
5. Danforth hurts his community by trying to force John Proctor to make a false statement, failing to hear all evidence, and refusing to pardon the innocent.
6. By committing adultery, refusing to confess, and leaving his family in the end, John Proctor destroys everything he once had.
7. John Proctor acts to heal and to better his community by striving to uphold justice for his wife, his friends, and himself.
8. John Proctor's selfish reluctance to obey the laws of his church and refusal to follow the commands of his leaders illustrate a severe breakdown of the Salem community.