

Character Flaws

Characterization is the method used by a writer to develop how the character looks, acts, and thinks. Many of the characters in this play blame their problems on external forces. The true source of their troubles, however, lies within themselves. It's human nature to have personal strengths and weaknesses. Sometimes those weaknesses wield too much power, as is the case with many of the townspeople in Salem.

Directions: For each character, select two weaknesses from the following list. Demonstrate how each character displays the chosen weaknesses by using examples from the text. Some of the same weaknesses apply to more than one character, while some may not be used at all.

envy	lust
dishonesty	immaturity
guilt	greed
suspicion	grief
quick-tempered behavior	self-doubt

Character	Flaw	Example
John Proctor	1. 2.	1. 2.
Elizabeth Proctor	1. 2.	1. 2.
Abigail Williams	1. 2.	1. 2.
Reverend Parris	1. 2.	1. 2.
Ann Putnam	1. 2.	1. 2.

Key

Name _____

Date _____ Hour _____

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Character	Flaw	Example
John Proctor	1. <i>guilt</i> 2. <i>lust</i>	1. <i>Feels guilty about his affair</i> 2. <i>had lust for another woman</i>
Elizabeth Proctor	1. <i>suspicion</i> 2. <i>self-doubt</i>	1. <i>suspicion that her husband likes Abigail</i> 2. <i>She thinks she is plain + unworthy</i>
Abigail Williams	1. <i>immaturity</i> 2. <i>lust</i> <i>dishonesty</i>	1. <i>believes she is more than she is</i> 2. <i>want to have John</i> <i>lying about spirits, false accusations</i>
Reverend Parris	1. <i>greed</i> 2. <i>quick-tempered</i>	1. <i>wanting Firewood, deed to house, gold candlesticks</i> 2. <i>dispute over fire wood</i>
Ann Putnam	1. <i>grief</i> 2. <i>envy</i>	1. <i>she lost 7 babies @ birth</i> 2. <i>envious Rebecca Nurse + others can have babies</i>