

## Teacher Exemplar Reflection

We have learned much together and from each other. I hope that you will come away from my time with you having gained much knowledge, not only about *The Crucible* but also about life and learning.

*The Crucible* has much to teach us about life today. More important than being able to figure out what literary element Miller is employing in his writing, is the ability to understand the story he is telling and the lesson he is teaching. All literature should be learned and taught with this goal in mind.

Miller shows us the danger of accepting someone's word without question, without any thought or hesitation. To a modern reader, much removed from the time of the Salem witch trials, it is almost unfathomable to think that such a horrible crime could occur here in the United States, and yet it did and not just once. McCarthyism shows us that history repeated itself. Even today, we see examples of one person's word having the power to persuade without question. If everyone would heed Miller's warning—to think for yourself and think critically—we could prevent another such atrocity.