

Name: _____

Period: _____

Mixing Your Words with Quotations

Here is an example of a paragraph with quotes effectively mixed in with the writer's own words.

John Proctor is one character that breaks down and changes throughout the play, similar to the material within a crucible. Proctor is an “even-tempered” man “respected and even feared in Salem” (Miller 20). This is obvious from his interactions with other characters. He is s a man to be reckoned with, a man who believes in his opinions and will stand by them. Most importantly, he is a man who is not afraid to express his opinions. Yet, he is a man that has “come to regard himself as a kind of fraud” (Miller 21). This is based purely on his affair with Abigail Williams, which will, later is his undoing. As the trials progress, Proctor’s even temper disintegrates. His temper breaks down so much that, in a “wild, breathless” manner in court, Proctor screams, “I say – I say – God is dead” (Miller 119). These are not the ramblings of an even tempered man. These are the ramblings of a man who has lost his way. But it is not until the end of the play that he finally changes his own low opinion of himself. In that moment when he has ripped up his confession and will not accuse anyone else of being a witch, the transformation is complete. This change is clear when Proctor tells Elizabeth, “You have made your magic now, for now I do think I see some shred of goodness in John Proctor. Not enough to weave a banner with, but white enough to keep it from such dogs” (Miller 144). John Proctor is just one element of *The Crucible* that proves the title is appropriate.