

## The Crucible Vocabulary ACT IV

1. penitence - regret for one's wrongdoing or sinning; contrition; repentance
2. stench – foul odor; stink
3. gaunt – excessively thin and angular
4. agape – being in a state of wonder
5. strongbox – locked box for keeping valuables
6. gibbet – gallows; an upright post with a projecting arm for hanging the bodies of executed criminals as a warning
7. excommunication – exclusion from the rights of church membership
8. conciliatory – eager to make peace, to reconcile
9. beguile – deceive by guile; hoodwink
10. floundering – proceeding or acting clumsily or ineffectually
11. reprieve – to delay the punishment of
12. retaliation – returning like for like; vengeance for an injury
13. adamant – unyielding; unshakable or immovable especially in opposition
14. perfection – completion
15. cleave – cling; to adhere firmly and closely or loyally and unwaveringly
16. disputation – verbal controversy; debate; argument
17. sibilance – a hissing sound
18. tantalized – teased, fascinated
19. embodiment – a person, being, or tangible thing that expresses an abstract idea, spirit, or principle.
20. quail – to lose heart or courage in difficulty or danger; shrink with fear.
21. calamity--a great misfortune or disaster, as a flood or serious injury; 2) serious or significant distress; adversity; misery.
22. purge - to rid of whatever is impure or undesirable; cleanse; purify; 2) to rid, clear, or free (usually followed by *of* or *from*).
23. merely – only as specified and nothing more; simply.