**Writing**:

1. Thesis – Have one that you pull through the essay. Every body paragraph should support the thesis explicitly.
2. Remember the author wrote the work of literature. I should see his name in your essay as much as I see the characters.
3. Use quotes that have value and explain how those support your thesis.
4. Say something meaningful – don’t just repeat
5. Stop with the adverbs – very, heavily, significantly – Stephen King said, “the road to hell is paved with adverbs.” He was right.
6. Stop trying to sound smart with the use of pretentious language– aforementioned, thusly, as stated earlier (it’s a three page paper!)
7. Vocabulary – You should use your best vocabulary, but not sound as though you swallowed a thesaurus.
8. Don’t play the “what if” game – The author wrote the play or developed the characters with intention. Your task is to understand that.
9. Edit your writing – re-read multiple times and think while you read
10. Call it what it is – this is a play or drama – not a book or story
11. Don’t retell the plot and think that proves your point.
12. Passive voice – You’ll understand this soon.

**Content**:

1. Who it good and who is evil?

John Proctor isn’t all good. He is a flawed character, which is what makes him compelling. He is a tragic hero.

How bad is Abigail? Why does she act as she does?

1. The best papers understood that no one is truly good or truly evil.