

History Channel Film: Salem Witch Trials

Answer the following questions while viewing the film.

1. Other than in America, where and when did witch hunts occur? How many people were killed during these times?
2. Witchcraft was not deemed a heresy until _____ by Pope _____.
3. Throughout the video, there are several theories explaining why people accused others of witchcraft. Name at least three reasons that are mentioned.
4. List four to five methods, in detail, used by authorities to identify a person as a witch.
5. Why were witches tried by the state, in most cases? Listen to the section discussing King Henry VIII in England.
6. Where and when was the first witch trial in America?
7. How does predestination play a role in the hysteria created by the witch hunts? Why was there a greater focus on women?
8. _____ was the one who showed Elizabeth Parris and Abigail Williams her cultural and religious secrets.
9. Describe some of the girls' behaviors that caused fear in the small town of Salem.
10. List two reasons given by the experts explaining why Goode and Osborne were called out by the girls.
11. What was the only criterion needed to admit spectral evidence in a trial?
12. Why does Tituba's acceptance of guilt raise even further hysteria in Salem?
13. Shortly after Tituba's guilt, who were the new victims marked as witches by the young girls?
14. How were witches killed? What happened to their bodies after execution?
15. What events lead to the end of the witch trials? Explain.
16. What happened five years later? What did the people of Salem do?

