**Group 1: Daily Life in Salem**
Answer the following questions about daily life in the 1600s in Puritan New England.

1. **Describe the Puritan society, clothing, family life, religious beliefs, jobs, etc.**
2. **How did their clothing support their religious views?**
3. **Describe the types of homes that probably existed in Salem. Explain what a palisade is and why it was necessary.**
4. **Describe the family life of Puritans.**
5. **What was the hierarchy of the Salem family and town?**

**Group 2: Puritanism and Government**
Answer the following questions about Puritanism.

1. **Define Puritans/Puritanism**
2. **What were some of the basic puritan beliefs?**
3. **What is predestination?**
4. **How would Puritans view those of other faiths/religions?**
5. **Where did Puritans come from and why did they come to the New World?**
6. **List some ways of Puritanism in the 1600s that wouldn’t work well today.**
7. **What is a theocracy and how would it affect the view of Salem residents toward witchcraft?**

**Group 3: Witchcraft**
Answer the following questions about witchcraft.

1. **Describe maleficium and theological witchcraft.**
2. **Explain how the Puritans thought of witches.**
3. **Which type of person was most likely to be considered a witch?**
4. **How did property and land contribute to accusations of witchcraft?**
5. **Explain ergotism and how it may have played a role in the witch trials.**
6. **Define Clinical Hysteria. Explain how stress and clinical hysteria could account for some of the unusual behaviors observed.**
7. **In what forms does witchcraft exist today?**
8. **How are modern day witches treated or viewed? (Think about what is known and how they are portrayed in movies/tv)**

**Group 4: Witch Trials of 1692 in Salem**

1. **Who were these people and what happened to them in 1692?**
**Giles Corey   Martha Corey  John Proctor   Sarah Osbourne**
2. **What personal goals did Thomas Putnam have in accusing others of witchcraft? (text p.83 *Understanding the Crucible* )**
3. **Look at the timeline.  What behaviors started to appear among the villagers?**
4. **Who were Betty Parris, Abigail Williams, and Tituba?**
5. **Who was the first person officially executed?  How did her station in society (tavern owner) influence her fate?**
6. **Describe a typical trial for a witch.**
7. **Describe some of the tests for a witch.**
8. **What was especially bizarre and unfair about the accusation of Rebecca Nurse?**

**Group 5: McCarthy Witch-hunts**

Answer the following questions about witch-hunts.

1. **Define a witch-hunt (be sure that you don’t simply say hunting a witch)**
2. **Who was Joseph McCarthy and what did he investigate?  Why were Americans concerned about Communism during the 1950s?**
3. **What was the HUAC? What happened to people brought before the HUAC?**
4. **What happened when the McCarthy hearings were televised and he began to accuse Army officers of being Communists?**
5. **How was McCarthyism a witch-hunt?** **How might the events in the 1692 witch-hunts be compared to those of the McCarthy era in the 1950s?**
6. **Provide some modern examples of witch hunts (not literal witch hunts, use the definition to help you here).**

**Group 6: Biography of Arthur Miller**
Answer the following questions about Arthur Miller.

1. **Give some details about Miller's early life and family.**
2. **What were his major achievements and awards?**
3. **Describe Miller's appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee.**
4. **Describe the effects of the investigation on Miller's writing of *The Crucible.***
5. **How did Miller's social conscience affect his work?**
6. **What common theme or themes appear in his works?**

**Group 7: Biography of Nathaniel Hawthorne**
Answer the following questions about Nathaniel Hawthorne.

1. **Give some details about Hawthorne's early life and family and who was he?**
2. **How did his Puritan heritage influence him?**
3. **How did Hawthorne perceive nature?**
4. **What was his opinion of women writers?**
5. **What are some common themes that appear in his works?**

**Group 8: Biography of Jonathan Edwards and Cotton Mather**

1. **Give some details about Mather and Edward's early life and family.**
2. **Who was were these two men and why are they important to know about?**
3. **What were each man’s views on the way people should live life?**
4. **Other important details about Edward’s and Mather’s life.**
5. **What are some common themes that appear in their works?**

**Group 9: The 1950s**

1. **What was the cold war?**
2. **Describe life in the US at the time and the views of Russia.**
3. **What is communism? Why was the US afraid of Communism?**
4. **How did the issues with communism change the entertainment industry?**
5. **What was blacklisting and who was affected by the entertainment industry blacklists?**