

Leaders' Voices Answer Key

Possible Responses

1. Salem was chaotic with rising accusations and crowded jails.
2. He created the court to restore order and properly handle the many cases.
3. He criticizes the use of spectral evidence because it is unreliable and threatens innocent lives.
4. Mather believes witchcraft must be punished strongly.
5. His writing supports continuing trials to stop what he thinks is the Devil's influence.
6. Phips thinks the trials should change or slow because mistakes are being made; Mather thinks they must continue firmly, even with unusual evidence.

Teacher's Guide

- **Before Activity:**
 - Introduce who Phips and Mather were and their roles in the crisis.
 - Explain "spectral evidence" so students can identify the disagreement.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Offer guided highlighting for key phrases in the documents.
 - Provide incomplete sentence stems for students needing scaffolding.
 - Push advanced students to add historically relevant details (e.g., the Court of Oyer and Terminer).
- **Engagement Strategies:**
 - Partner or group discussion of differences before writing answers.
 - Quick role-play: one student as Phips and one as Mather explaining their views.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Write a brief argumentative paragraph: "Whose position better protected justice?"
 - Connect to U.S. constitutional protections that prevent similar injustice today.