***English II Honors***

***The Crucible* – Introductory**

**“A Modern Witch Hunt”**

**Read the article, “A Modern Witch Hunt,” and then respond in a clear, concise, and detailed manner to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. If faced with a similar situation as Elia Kazan, would you “name names” as he did or face the punishment of Congress, and why do you feel this way?

2. Did the questioning of witnesses by HUAC violate the First Amendment right to free speech, as some would attest? Explain your reasoning.

3. Why were so many people unwilling to question the actions of HUAC and Senator Joseph McCarthy?

4. If you had been in attendance at the 1999 Academy Awards, when Elia Kazan ascended the stage, would you have honored him with a standing ovation or not? Explain your reasoning.

5. Besides the Salem Witch Trials of 1692 and the Hollywood Communist scandal of the 1950’s, what other “witch hunts” have occurred throughout history? What was the issue at stake and how were people affected by the situation?

6. Could something like this occur in this day and age? Would there be public outcry or would people silently fear authority and attempt to survive the situation?

7. Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

8. Who in our class is a Communist and why do you believe this to be so?