Act II – Answers:

1. John and Elizabeth’s relationship is fractured – it is bland (john adding salt) and the short and choppy conversation reveals how disconnected the two are.
2. He wants the audience to realize that although the affair ended 7 months ago, there is a lot of lingering tension between the two.
3. Abigail is in total control – she isn’t in this act and she still controls the actions. The judges sit and eat meals with her – the other girls do her bidding with spectral evidence.
4. Early in the act Elizabeth wants to john to go to Abigail and break whatever promise may have been made during the affair – she wants him to break her heart.
5. Abigail – she loves John and will go to great lengths to get him
6. Elizabeth believes John still has feelings for Abigail because he hesitates to do as she wishes. John gets angry with Elizabeth because he feels she is still judging him after the affair
7. A poppet – a doll
8. Mary Warren reveals there are now 39 people accused and some will hang if they don’t confess. She is a witness to the spectral evidence. John knows this whole thing is wrong and he doesn’t want his family drawn into it anymore.
9. They have to confess to being a witch
10. He comes on his own to try and meet with the families whose names have been brought before the court. Hale feels like he’s losing control and no one is really interested in a true investigation of witchery.
11. Here John is talking about the girls – and that Ruth and Betty were never really sick – it was fear that put them into that state. John tells Hale that Abigail told him it was “sportin”
12. Hale again is trying to understand why Elizabeth was mentioned.
13. Hale starts to change his views when John asks why Abigail has never been questioned – and when the “witches” can confess or hang – who would not try to save his/her life. Rebecca Nurse being charged also adds a strain to Hale.
14. Thou shalt not commit adultery
15. Abigail
16. Walcott’s pigs die because he doesn’t know how to take care of them – but he needs to blame someone
17. John wants Mary Warren to go to court and tell the truth about what really happened in the forest. She is terrified of Abigail though and says she cannot do this
18. He questions the accuser to Hale – and he realizes that he is responsible for what is happening
19. Mary Warren set Elizabeth up – she gave the doll as an symbol of innocence, but stabs her because of Abigail