

Rising 11th Grade Summer Reading – *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Overview:

The novel is set in 17th century Puritan America. The main character of the novel, Hester Prynne, has been ostracized and outcast from society because she became pregnant out of wedlock. She is forced to wear the red letter “A” for Adulterer on her dress as she struggles with the guilt and shame created by her sin. Her interactions with the town minister, Arthur Dimmesdale, and her “assumed dead” husband, Roger Chillingworth, build suspense in the novel as Hester and her daughter, Pearl, try to build a life within the strict rules set out by the Puritan church.

ASSIGNMENT – ALL work is due on the first day of school, August 12, 2019

1. You are to answer the Summer Reading Companion Questions using the attached chart. This chart may be downloaded and you may type directly on the chart, expanding boxes as needed to fit the information requested. If you choose to recreate the chart, it must include all of the same questions and explanations as required on the original. All work must be typed – handwritten responses will not be accepted. Please follow the format for name, date, grade, subject (English III), as shown for ALL typed responses.
2. Hawthorne had roots in the New England area and wrote about the oppressive, strict rules of the Puritans in his novel, *The Scarlet Letter*. Conduct research on the Puritan lifestyle of the time and answer the following questions. All answers must be in complete sentences and must be a minimum of one paragraph in length. This researched information will also be included on your novel test the first week of school. You must include a Works Cited Page to let me know where you got this information. Remember to paraphrase your information and not copy word for word.
 - Describe and explain some of the strict rules of living imposed on and expected of Puritans.
 - Explain what the Puritans believed about the forest and the presence of evil
 - Explain the role of women in a Puritan society.
 - What did the Puritans believe about sin and punishment?
3. Please answer the following questions regarding *The Scarlet Letter*. These responses must be typed and numbered and should be at least one paragraph in length each. Use complete sentences and restate the prompt in your answer.
 1. In Puritan society, people were extremely judgmental of those committing sins – especially women. Discuss the idea that Puritans not only judged citizens according

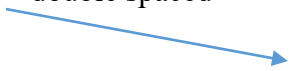
to “biblical law”, but also to “societal law” and reference the behavior of the citizens in *The Scarlet Letter* in light of what the bible says in Matthew 7:1-5.

2. Dimmesdale is a figure of hypocrisy who preaches virtue from the pulpit and refuses to take his daughter’s hand in public, but pays a terrible personal price for his actions. What points do you think Hawthorne is trying to make about organized religion of the time? To what degree is Dimmesdale responsible for his own actions and how much are the townsfolk responsible for forcing him into his position?
3. Consider the relationship between Chillingworth and Dimmesdale. To what extent are they dependent upon one another? How does Hawthorne juxtapose these two characters with one another? (Juxtapose = to place together for contrasting effect)
4. "Roger Chillingworth was a striking evidence of man’s faculty of transforming himself into a devil." What role does Chillingworth play? Do you think he is morally more degenerate than Hester and her lover, or do you have sympathy for his campaign of revenge? Do you think he redeems himself at all with his bequest to Pearl at the end of the story?

FORMAT:

REMINDER FOR ALL WRITTEN RESPONSES:

- Type your responses.
- Send your work through spell and grammar check.
- Times New Roman– Font –Size 12 – double spaced
- Heading on top left of your paper
- Label each section
- Do not “share” any work with your peers.



NAME
Mrs. Vetter
English III
Date (August 12, 2019)

Students must be prepared for a graded assessment on each novel read for their grade-level assignment during the first week of school.

As a reminder, all written work is due on the first day of school and late work will not be accepted.

How Do You Turn In Work?

- Hard Copy on August 12, 2019 brought to class with you
- Email with attachment by 8:00 a.m. on August 12, 2019 (amy.vetter@cathedralemail.com)
- Shared Google Doc by 8:00 a.m. on August 12, 2019 (amy.vetter@cathedralemail.com)

Setting: The setting of a story defines the time, place and era of the action. A book can have multiple settings. List and label facts about each setting you know as you read. Include page numbers to support your ideas.

Where does the story take place? Describe the location: country or city, mountain, beach, dirt roads or highways, bustling or sleepy, etc.


What time period does the story take place in? Describe what you know and how you know it: Is it modern day because there is current technology? Is it wintertime because it's snowing? Do you know the decade, year or month?

Characters: Characters are the "players" in the story who perform the action. List the Protagonist (main character), the Antagonist (the character the main character has a conflict with), and supporting or secondary characters (as many as needed – you are not limited by the space provided here). Include page numbers to support your ideas. **You must include at least 3 secondary characters**, but may include more if needed to adequately cover the key players in the novel.

Character Name	Physical Description	How the character feels about him or herself	How the character feels about others	Character Traits; Describe qualities the character has: caring, selfish, conceited, etc.
Protagonist				
Antagonist				

Secondary Characters

Plot: The plot of the story is how the actions progress through the book. Different sections of the action have different names; they also happen at different times in the story. Write down specific, key events in the boxes.

Introduction: Setting, characters, and conflict are introduced	Rising Action(s): Part(s) where the protagonist is faced with or tries to solve the conflict	Climax: Turning point in the story where the conflict is resolved or made worse 	Falling Action(s): Part(s) where the protagonist learns to live with the consequences of the conflict.	Resolution: Part that arrives at a natural, ironic, surprising, or thought provoking end.
Beginning of Story		Middle of Story	End of Story	

Themes and Symbolism: As you read, list ideas about these following elements of fiction to help you discuss and writ about the literary work. Include page numbers to support your ideas.

Themes: The author’s statement or lesson about life learned through the characters. For instance, the theme of <i>The Ugly Duckling</i> might be “don’t judge someone by their appearance alone”. Provide at least TWO examples.		Symbolism: When a concrete or real object is used to represent an idea or concept. For example, a bird, because if can fly, has often been used as a symbol for freedom. Provide at least TWO examples	
Themes:	Character(s) that represent the lesson	Symbol	Significance

Conflicts: As you read, identify problems or struggles between two opposing forces in the story. **Provide at least two examples below.** Remember, there are 4 main conflicts:

Man vs. Man – problem between two characters **Man vs. Self** – problem within the character’s mind
Man vs. Nature – problem between character and some force of nature (blizzard, fire, hurricane, etc) **Man vs. Society** – problem between a character and the law, regulation, tradition, or other social norm

<i>Description of Conflict</i>	<i>Type of Conflict</i>	<i>Why did you choose this Conflict type?</i>