# The Scarlet Letter Reading Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 22</strong>&lt;br&gt;New HW policy: If you miss 1 hw assignment, it is <strong>mandatory</strong> that you come to Thursday’s tutoring that week. This includes absences. NO EXCUSES!</td>
<td><strong>October 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>October 25</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapters 1-3.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 1-3 Sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 29</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 4-6.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 4-6 Sections.</td>
<td><strong>October 31</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Argument Discussion:</strong>&lt;br&gt;What is a women’s role in society? How should a woman behave?</td>
<td><strong>November 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 7-9.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 7-9 Sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 10-12.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 10-12 Section.</td>
<td><strong>November 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;Practice AP argument essay</td>
<td><strong>November 8</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 13-15.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 13-15 Sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 12</strong>&lt;br&gt;Veteran’s Day</td>
<td><strong>November 13 (Tuesday)</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 16-18.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 16-18 Sections.</td>
<td><strong>November 15</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day</strong>&lt;br&gt;4) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 19-21.&lt;br&gt;5) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;6) Packet: Chapter 19-21 Sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 19</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Finish reading &amp; annotating Chapter 22-24.&lt;br&gt;2) Literature Circles.&lt;br&gt;3) Packet: Chapter 22-24 Sections.</td>
<td><strong>November 21</strong>&lt;br&gt;Practice AP argument essay:</td>
<td><strong>November 22</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thanksgiving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 26</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) HW Packet (All pages)&lt;br&gt;2) Socratic Seminar WKST</td>
<td><strong>November 28</strong>&lt;br&gt;Review</td>
<td><strong>November 29</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HW due on this day:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Study Guide&lt;br&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In class:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Literature Circles&lt;br&gt;- Socratic Seminar&lt;br&gt;- Vocabulary Test, Chapters 13-24</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Test and Essay in-class.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Map of Hester Prynne's Boston, circa 1600s

**Directions:** As you finish reading the initial chapters (1-5), you should be able to map where many of the following places are in relation to each other. Each location has symbolic significance, so in the chart below keep track of what the locations symbolize:

- The Prison
- The Cemetery
- The Rosebush
- The Scaffold
- The Marketplace
- The Town’s Border (in general)
- Hester’s cottage
- The Forest (with a river)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Symbols</th>
<th>What it represents</th>
<th>Other Symbols</th>
<th>What it represents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="41">Prison (41)</a></td>
<td>Rosebush (42)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="41">Cemetery (41)</a></td>
<td>The Letter A (45)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="68-80">The Town</a></td>
<td>Pearl (68-80)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hester's cottage (67)</td>
<td>The Black Man (63)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Forest (121-122)</td>
<td>The Meteor (121-122)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Chapter 1

### Diction Analysis, page 41

**Directions:** On page 41, identify dichotomous words—that is words that describe the same thing in contradictory or opposing ways.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group of Words about __________</th>
<th>Different Group of Words about __________ (an opposite thing to the left)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions:** Now that you have categorized some groups of words, analyze both what this means about the inhabitants of this town, and why it is important.

**Analysis:**

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

### Chapter 2

### Syntax, page 43

**Directions:** For page 43, find three quotations that begin with the same phrase. This is called **anaphora**—when author repeats the first words of a sentence.

**Example 1 of anaphora**

#1) ____________________________________________________________________________

**Example 2 of anaphora:**

#2) ____________________________________________________________________________

**Example 3 of anaphora**

#3) ____________________________________________________________________________

**Analysis:** Why do you think the author begins so many different sentences with the same phrase, and what effect does that have on the reader?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Tone, page 45

Directions: Most of the “goodwives” on page 45 have a very specific tone towards Hester Prynne. Find a quotation that exemplifies their tone, and identify the tone. There is one goodwife with a dissenting tone. Find her quotation and tone as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quote from “goodwives”</th>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Quote from younger goodwife</th>
<th>Tone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Reading Comprehension, pages 45-48

Directions: For pages 45-48, answer the following questions about Hester Prynne.

1) Hester is wearing a specific letter. What is that letter, and why do you think she must wear it?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

2) Hester reacts toward the crowd in a mixed way. What two emotions does she mostly embody, and what does that say about her character?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

3) Hester is carrying something. What is she carrying, and what does it symbolize?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 3

Repetition Analysis, pages 53

Directions: In chapter 3, you meet Roger Chillingworth, the keen and perceptive old man. This man makes the following remark on page 53. Analyze the author’s use of repetition in the paragraph, and predict what that means about Hester.

Quotation: “A wise sentence!...It irks me nevertheless, that the partner of her iniquity (grave sin) should not, at least, stand on the scaffold by her side. But he will be known!—he will be known!—he will be known!”

Analysis: ________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
Character Analysis, pages 55 - 56

Directions: In the following paragraphs, Reverend Dimmesdale is described in great detail as he begs Hester to reveal the name of her child’s father. Identify several words that describe Dimmesdale, and analyze what that says about him.

Quotations: “The directness of this appeal drew the eyes of the whole crowd upon the Reverend Mr. Dimmesdale….like the speech of an angel (Hawthorne 55)”
“The young pastor’s voice was tremulously sweet…Hester shook her head” (Hawthorn 56).

Words: ____________________________________________________________

Analysis: __________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

Character Analysis, pages 56 - 57

Directions: In the following paragraphs, Hester Prynne acts in both a meek and defiant manner. Identify several words or phrases that describe her attitude toward the different reverends and clergyman, and analyze what that says about her.

Quotations: “Hester shook her head (Hawthorne 56)”
“‘Never!’ replied Hester Prynne… ‘I will not speak!’ ” (Hawthorn 56).
“Discerning the impracticable state of the poor culprit’s mind…. dark passageway of the interior” (Hawthorn 57).

Words: ____________________________________________________________

Analysis: __________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

Chapter 4: The Interview

Character Analysis of Gender Stereotypes, pages 59-64

Directions: In this chapter, Roger Chillingworth and Hester react towards each other in gendered roles because he is her estranged husband. Fill out the chart, and then answer the AP Argument Practice essay to the best of your ability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Roger Chillingworth</th>
<th>Hester Prynne</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In what ways does the character act like a traditional husband or wife?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In what ways does the character deviate from the role of a traditional husband or wife?

AP Argument Essay

Directions: In this chapter, we have two characters who act in both traditional and non-traditional gendered roles. What do you think is a woman’s role in society, and how should women behave for the good of the community?

Argument: A woman’s role is to ________________________________ because ________________________________

Reason 1: ________________________________________________________________

Reason 2: ________________________________________________________________

Chapter 5: Hester at Her Needle

Reading Comprehension, pages 67-71

Directions: Answer the following questions about Hester and Pearl.

1) Hester could leave the town, remove the A, and hide her shame. Why then does she stay in Boston?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

2) Hester has a talent that gives her a job in the community. What is her job, and how does wearing the Letter A help with that job?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

3) How does Hester’s talent show hypocrisy about the townspeople?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Diction and Tone Analysis, page 68

Directions: Hester and Pearl are described on page 68 in a contradictory fashion. Choose a few words to describe each of them, and analyze what that means about their character.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words about Hester</th>
<th>What they mean about her</th>
<th>Words about Pearl</th>
<th>What they mean about her</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 6: Pearl (73-89)

Reading Comprehension: Pearl

**Directions:** Answer the following questions about Pearl.

1) Why does Hester Prynne look at Pearl “less with hope than apprehension” (Hawthorne 73)? What does she fear will happen to Pearl?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________

2) Pearl has difficulty following rules. The author gives several reasons why this might be true on pages 74-75. List two of the reasons:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________

3) How do the other children react toward Pearl on pages 76 and 77?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Argument Essay

**Directions:** In this chapter, we have seen all of the influences that might create a person’s temperant. Thinking of Pearl and other characters, philosophers, etc, answer the following question: *Is a person’s nature predetermined, or does a person’s environment have more influence on their personality?*

**Argument:** A person’s nature is determined by _____________________________ because

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Reason 1: _______________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Reason 2: _______________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Symbolism Analysis

**Directions:** For the following quotation, identify the symbol. Then analyze what it means with regard to the characters mentioned, as well as why it matters that this symbol is used in reference to a child.

**Quotation:** “But it was a remarkable attribute of this garb, and indeed, of the child’s whole appearance, that it irresistibly and inevitably reminded the beholder of the token which Hester Prynne was doomed to wear upon her bosom. It was the scarlet letter in another form; the scarlet letter endowed with life! The mother herself—as if the red ignominy were so deeply scorched into her brain, had carefully wrought out the similitude; lavishing many hours of morbid ingenuity, to create an analogy between the object of her affection, and the emblem of her guilt and torture.” (Hawthorne 82).
Chapter 7: The Governor’s Hall

Diction or Symbolism Analysis, page 85

Directions: Read the following quotation on page 85. Then analyze either the diction or symbolism in a few sentences.

“Hester looked, by way of humoring the child; and she saw that, owing to the peculiar effect of this convex mirror, the scarlet letter was represented in exaggerated and gigantic proportions, so as to be greatly the most prominent feature of her appearance. In truth, she seemed absolutely hidden behind it. Pearl pointed upward, also, at a similar picture in the head-piece; smiling at her mother, with the elfish intelligence that was so familiar an expression on her small physiognomy. That look of naughty merriment was likewise reflected in the mirror, with so much breadth and intensity of effect, that it made Hester Prynne feel as if it could not be the image of her own child, but of an imp who was seeking to mold itself into Pearl’s shape.” (Hawthorne 85)

Analysis:

Chapter 8: The Elf-Child and the Minister

Ironic Analysis

Directions: In this chapter, many ironies appear. Most of them have to do with the men with power in the scene. For each of the following situations, explain what is ironic, and what this means about the Puritan society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quotation</th>
<th>Irony Explained</th>
<th>What this means about Puritan society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“The wide circumference of an elaborate ruff, beneath his grey beard, in the antiquated fashion of King James’s reign, caused his head to look not a little like that of John the Baptist in a charger.” (87)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The old clergyman, nurtured at the rich bosom of the English Church, had a long established and legitimate taste for all good and comfortable things” (87).</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“It was understood that this learned man was the physician as well as friend of the young minster, whose health had severely suffered, of late” (88).

**Reading Comprehension**

1) What does Governor Bellingham mean when he says, “there hath been much question concerning thee, of late. The point hath been weightily discussed, whether we, that are of authority and influence, do well discharge our consciences by trusting an immortal soul, such as there is in yonder child, to the guidance of one who hath stumbled and fallen, amid the pitfalls of the world” (Hawthorne 89).

2) For the scene in which the above quotation takes place, can you think of an equivalent modern scenario where something similar might happen?

3) What reason allows Hester to keep Pearl? If possible, find a direct quote to support your answer.

**Chapter 9: The Leech**

**Argument Essay**

**Directions:** In this chapter, we see how Chillingworth is affected by Hester's sin. Remember, he was expecting a young, beautiful bride waiting for him, and instead was greeted by his wife, a criminal, with some other man's child. Keeping that in mind: *Is revenge ever an acceptable outcome?*

Argument: Revenge is/is not acceptable because____________________________

Reason 1: ________________________________

Reason 2: ________________________________

**Chapter 10: The Leech and His Patient**

**Figurative Language: 103-104**

**Directions:** in the description of Chillingworth and Dimmesdale, the author uses figurative language to describe their relationship. Find the following types of figurative language on pages 103-104.
• 2 similes about digging:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

• 1 simile about light / fire:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

• A long metaphor about mining:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Analysis:** Looking at the above figurative language, explain what all this means about Chillingworth’s relationship to Dimmesdale, as well as what this means about the effects of revenge:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Reading Comprehension: pages 106-107, 109**

**Directions:** Answer the following questions.

1. What does Pearl do with the burrs, and why is this important?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Dimmesdale and Chillingworth have a philosophical discussion about suffering and sin. What does each believe?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. What does Chillingworth see on page 109?

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
Chapter 11: The Interior of a Heart

I Irony Analysis

Directions: There are many instances of irony in this chapter. Find 2-3 examples of each, and fill out the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbal Irony</th>
<th>Situational Irony</th>
<th>Dramatic Irony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Ironic Things I Noticed (Juxtaposition, Dichotomy, Paradox, Oxymoron, etc.)

Analysis: Choose one of the ironies above, and put stars around it. Then, analyze the effect of that irony in the space below:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 12: The Minister’s Vigil

Argument Essay

Directions: In this chapter, Dimmesdale nearly goes mad with his guilt over his sin. He sleep-walks, sees visions, and has a terrible imagination: What is the relationship between guilt and crime?

Argument: The relationship between guilt and crime can be defined as __________

Reason 1: ____________________________________________________________

Reason 2: ____________________________________________________________

Symbolism Analysis: Pages 123-124

In this chapter, there is a red meteor that crosses the sky. It is fantastically shaped in the letter A. Different individuals interpret it differently. First, explain how the different groups interpret it. Then analyze what this says about each group of people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How the meteor is interpreted</th>
<th>Mr. Dimmesdale</th>
<th>The sexton and the townspeople</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quotation Analysis of a Rhetorical Device

Directions: In the following quotation, identify the rhetorical device and analyze its effect on the audience:

Quotation: “Thou wast not bold!—thou wast not true!” answered the child. “Thou wouldst not promise to take my hand, and my mother’s hand, to-morrow at noontide!” (Hawthorne 123).

Rhetorical Device: ____________________________________________

Analysis: ______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Chapter 13: Another View of Hester

Reading Comprehension, pages 125-128

Directions: The letter A makes many changes on Hester in the 7 years she wears it, as listed on pages 125-128. Write 3 of these changes.
Change 1: ______________________________________________________

Change 2: ____________________________________________________

Change 3: ____________________________________________________
Rhetorical Analysis Essay Outline: page 128

Rhetorical Analysis: Pretend the quotation “The effect if the symbol...and so transfigured” is the passage for a rhetorical analysis essay. Annotate the passage for rhetorical devices, theme, tone, etc. Identify three rhetorical devices, and create a mock thesis below. (Hawthorne 128).

The author uses __________, __________, and __________ about __________ to convey __________.

Chapter 14: Hester and the Physician

Thematic Analysis, pages 132-134

Prompt 1: On page 132, Hester says “It lies not in the pleasure of the magistrates to take off this badge...Were I worthy to be quit of it, it would fall away of its own nature, or be transformed into something that should speak a different purport”.

Question 1: What is the author’s message about crime and punishment?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Prompt 2: On page 134, Chillingworth says, “I have already told thee what I am! A fiend!” Then he asks, “Who made me so?” Hester responds, “It was myself!”

Question 2: What is the author’s message about the effects of sin/crime on a community?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 15: Hester and Pearl

Syntax Analysis, page 137

Directions: The beginning of this chapter starts with a series of questions. Identify the following types:

1) A rhetorical question (a question that does not need to be answered because the answer is obvious: _________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

2) A question with a metaphor: _________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
3) A question with a malignant, malevolent tone: ________________________

**Analysis:** What is the author's purpose of all these questions? What is the effect of the questions? ________________________________________________________________

**Symbolism Analysis, page 139**

1) What does Pearl create on her dress, and what symbolic meaning does it have? ____________________________________________________________________________________________

2) Do you think Pearl understands what it is that she is doing? Why/why not? ____________________________________________________________________________________________

**Chapter 16: A Forest Walk**

**Analysis of Author's Philosophy, page 144-147**

**Directions:** An author's implicit beliefs are often apparent by small comments made throughout a text. Analyze each following quotation, then explain what you think the author is saying about people or humanity in general.

#1) She wanted—what some people want throughout life—a grief that should deeply touch [Pearl] and thus humanize and make her capable of sympathy. (144-145)

*From this quotation, I can tell that the author believes* ________________________

#2) Death was too definite an object to be wished or avoided. (Hawthorne 147)

*From this quotation, I can tell that the author believes* ________________________

**Allusion Analysis, page 146**

**Directions:** In Greek mythology, there is the story of Narcissus—a man who saw his own reflection in the water. He fell in love with his reflection, fell in the water, and died. What connections can you make to Pearl from this story on page 146?

**Directions:** Based on the story, can you make any connections to the following Biblical references? For a bonus (and extra awesomeness), find a quotation to support your connections.
Biblical Allusion Chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eve, a woman fallen into temptation</th>
<th>The Holy Family (Jesus, Mary, Joseph)</th>
<th>Christ suffering the night before his crucifixion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connection</td>
<td>Quotation</td>
<td>Connection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Quotation (Only fill out these boxes if you are extra awesome) |

Chapter 17: The Pastor and His Parishioner

Analysis of Author’s Philosophy, pages 151-155

Directions: An author’s implicit beliefs are often apparent by small comments made throughout a text. Analyze each following quotation, then explain what you think the author is saying about people or humanity in general.

#1) “There is no substance in it! It is cold and dead, and can do nothing for me! Of penance I have had enough! Of penitence there has been none! Else, I should long ago have thrown off these garments of mock holiness, and have shown myself to mankind as they will see me at the judgment seat. Happy are you, Hester, that wear the scarlet letter openly on your bosom! Mine burns in secret! (Hawthorne 151)

From this quotation, I can tell that the author believes

#2) Begin all anew!...There is good to be done! Exchange this false life of thine for a true one. Be, if they spirit thee to such a mission, the teacher and apostle of the red men. Or,--as is more thy nature, be a scholar and sage the the wisest and most renowned of the cultivated world. Preach! Write! Act!” (Hawthorne 155)

From this quotation, I can tell that the author believes

Irony and Juxtaposition, page 153

Directions: Explain the irony and juxtaposition related in the following quotation:

“Wilt thou yet forgive me?” [Hester] repeated, over and over again. “Wilt thou not frown? Wilt thou forgive?”
“I do forgive you, Hester,” replied the minister, at length, with a deep utterance out of an abyss of sadness, but not anger. “I freely forgive you now.” (153)

I irony: ________________________________________________________________

Juxtaposition: ___________________________________________________________

---

**Chapter 18: A Flood of Sunshine**

**Symbolism & Philosophy, page 159**

**Directions:** Analyze how the symbol in the following quotation on page 159 contributes to the author’s philosophy about the past.

“Let us not look back,” answered Hester Prynne. “The past is gone! Wherefore should we linger upon it now? See! With this symbol, I undo it all, and make it as if it had never been!”

So speaking, she undid the clasp that fastened the scarlet letter, and, taking it from her bosom, threw it to a distance among the withered leaves.

**Analysis:**

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________ 

---

**Chapter 19: The Child at the Brook-Side**

**Analysis, Page 165**

**Directions:** Explain the significance of the following scene:

Pearl still pointed with her forefinger [at the letter]; and a frown gathered on her brow; the more impressive from the childish ... features that conveyed it. ....But Pearl, not a whit startled at her mother’s threats, any more than mollified by her entreaties, now suddenly burst into a fit of passion, gesticulating violently, and throwing her small figure into the most extravagant contortions. She accompanied this wild outbreak with piercing shrieks (Hawthorne 165)

**Analysis:**

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________ 

Chapter 20: The Minister in a Maze

Philosophy Analysis, pages 171-173

**Directions:** On his walk home, Dimmesdale is tempted four times to do a ‘sinful’ act. Find a quotation for each sinful act, and analyze its significance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quotation</th>
<th>Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaking to a deacon on page 171</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking to the eldest female member of his church on page 172</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking to the youngest sister of them all on page 172</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking to a knot of little Puritan children on page 173</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 21: The New England Holiday, page 177

**Directions:** We are near the end of the novel, and for seven years, Hester has had to wear the scarlet letter A on her chest. Analyze how the letter has affected her, and the author’s philosophy about public punishment. For extra awesome points, compare this quotation to Hester’s description when she leaves the prison in Ch. 2.

“On this public holiday, as on all other occasions, for seven years past, Hester was clad in a garment of coarse grey cloth...Her face, so long familiar to the townspeople, showed the marble quietude which they were accustomed to behold there. It was like a mask; or rather, like the frozen calmness of a dead woman’s features; owing this dreary resemblance to the fact that Hester was actually dead...” Hawthorne 177).

**Analysis:**

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Challenge (Comparison to Ch. 2):

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Chapter 22: The Procession, pages 185-192

Directions: There are a lot of comparisons the author makes between Hester and Dimmesdale in this Chapter. Pearl is also placed near them, but she is somewhat apart from them. Look at how the following characters are juxtaposed, and the reasons why they are treated the way they are. Last, analyze the inherent irony in the situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What happens when this character walks through the crowd, and why?</th>
<th>Hester</th>
<th>Dimmesdale</th>
<th>Pearl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Where are these characters in relation to the church, and why are they in that physical spot?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who surrounds each character, and why are they surrounded by those characters?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What irony is the author displaying with all these characters?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 23: The Revelation of the Scarlet Letter

Symbol Analysis: The Scaffold

Directions: The scaffold is probably the most important symbol in *The Scarlet Letter*. Below, find a quotation from each chapter about the scaffold. Then, explain what it symbolizes. Last, analyze what this says about society at the time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quotation</th>
<th>Chapter 2</th>
<th>Chapter 12</th>
<th>Chapter 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Hawthorne__)</td>
<td>(Hawthorne__)</td>
<td>(Hawthorne__)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symbolic Meaning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reading Comprehension:
What do you think was on Dimmesdale’s chest? Explain your answer:
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 24: Conclusion

Quotation Analysis:
Directions: The following quotation is one of the most important quotations of the entire text. Annotate it for diction, syntax, and philosophy. Then explain its significance.

“Among many morals which press upon us from the poor minster’s miserable experience, we put only this into a sentence:—Be true! Be true! Be true! Show freely to the world, if not your worst, yet some trait whereby the worst may be inferred!” (Hawthorne 202)

Analysis:
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________

Argument Essay

Directions: In the past few chapters, many revelations are given away. Most have to do with guilt, sin, punishment, crime, and morals: Which is the better method to atone for one’s sins—public confession and expiation, or private suffering and remorse?

Argument: The better method to atone for one’s sins is ____________ because

______________________________________________________________________________________________

Reason 1: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Reason 2: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Question: Did you enjoy this novel? Why/why not?

______________________________________________________________________________________________