

## SENIOR LITERATURE

## Summer Reading Assignment

Your answers should all be handwritten neatly and legibly, and fit onto this worksheet. In addition to answering the questions on this worksheet, please annotate in your books: at least, one sentence summary at the end of each chapter, starting with "The Prison Door," and underline or highlight at least one term per chapter you don't understand or need clarification on (24 chapters x2 = 48pts). We will discuss your summaries and these terms—as well, you will turn in your worksheet and your copy of the book—the first week of class.

## The Scarlet Letter

- 1. Read "Nathaniel Hawthorne A Chronology" (pp.721-722, in the back of your book) and search the internet for two different websites about Nathaniel Hawthorne and his writing, which are, in your opinion, high quality websites with factual detail about the author and his writing. Respond to the prompts below
  - a. Properly cite your website(s) (per MLA guidelines) below: (4pts)

- b. Write *seven biographical details* from your research about your author, that you found interesting, that you would like me to put on your first exam(for example, "Nathaniel Hawthorne was born in Salem, Massachusetts twenty-eight years, to the day, after the American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain): (7pts)
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- 2. Answer this question in complete sentences after you have read the novel. Your author originally titled his novel *The Scarlet Letter*, *A Romance* (published in 1850). In your own opinion (not what you read on your websites), what do you think your author intended by using the word "Romance"? What do you find most surprising about this word choice? Explain. (4pts)

3. Reading of "The Custom-House," the author's original "Introductory to the 'Scarlet Letter'" (pp.7-33) is *optional* for you; however, reading the "Preface to the Second Edition" (p.5) *is not*. After reading this second preface (p.5), written on March 30<sup>th</sup> 1850, what, in your opinion, do you think the author is saying about the topic of historical accuracy within the literary genre of historical fiction, and the more generally about topic of censorship in literature? Please answer this question in two to three sentences below: (3pts)

- 4. Match the following characters to their proper and respective description(s) (10pts)
  - a. Hester Prynne \_
  - b. Arthur Dimmesdale \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Pearl \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Roger Chillingworth \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Reverend John Wilson \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Governor Bellingham \_\_\_\_\_
- 1. Town pastor
- 2. Hester's husband presumably lost
- 3. Grants Hester's appeal to keep custody
- 4. A child born out of wedlock
- 5. Forced to wear the Scarlet Letter "A"
- 6. Attempts to force Hester's confession
  - 7. Commits adultery, seeks restored dignity
  - 8. Is an unruly "elf child"
  - 9. Grows sick by his tormented conscience
  - 10. Seeks revenge on Dimmesdale
- 5. There are many important symbols used in the narrative. Four that are important to remember are: The Letter "A," the Rose Bush, the color Red, and the "Black Man." After reading the novel, answer below what you think each symbol represents (provide one example from the narrative to support your claim, include the page number) (8pts)
  - a. The Letter "A"

b. The Rose Bush

c. The Color Red

d. The Black Man

6. Write two different quotes from the novel that resonate with you. Quote each one in the space below (include the page number), and below each quote explain what you think the quote means and how it relates to the story: (6pts)

7. After reading the novel *The Scarlet Letter*, read one of two short stories written by Nathaniel Hawthorne and collected in your book. Read either "Young Goodman Brown" (pp.169-178) and/or "The Minister's Black Veil" (pp.178-187). After you have done this, answer the following question in the space below: What are at least two different ways this short story relates to the major theme(s) of Hawthorne's novel, *The Scarlet Letter*. Your answer should fill up the lines provided below: (10pts)

