

Name _____
High School Humanities Year A
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Week 5 Assignment Sheet
September 14, 2023
Due September 21, 2023

Unless specifically stated, no outside resources (Web sites, books, magazines, etc.) should be consulted to complete weekly homework assignments. *In other words, don't just Google the answer.* All assignments, unless otherwise noted, should be completed in MLA format.

Literature

- Read *The Scarlet Letter* chapters 12-15. / Also read Deuteronomy 12:8, Proverbs 14:12, and Romans 1:21. Think about these verses in light of the chapters you have read this week in *The Scarlet Letter*. We will discuss next week what the Bible says about subjective morality.

Writing

- Write in complete sentences, 12 font, double-spaced, Times New Roman. Be sure that ALL of your answers include documented evidence from the text, with page number.
 1. One of the most dramatic scenes takes place when Dimmesdale stands on the scaffold at night. What symbolic significance is there in the fact that Dimmesdale's "vigil" takes place at night, yet Hester stood upon the scaffold in daylight?
 2. "The effect of the symbol— or rather, of the position in respect to society that was indicated by it— on the mind of Hester Prynne herself, was powerful and peculiar." Explain this quotation. How had years of wearing the letter affected Hester? (Chapter 13)
 3. Pearl has begun to ask serious, thoughtful questions of her mother. What does Hester answer when Pearl asks the meaning of the scarlet letter? How is this significant?
 4. As Hawthorne reveals the intricate workings of his characters' minds, he creates strong images as well. Choose an image that you recall that strikes you as powerful. The image may involve a character's physical appearance, an action, or the setting of a scene. Imagine that you are commissioning an artist to render the image. Draw a diagram and explain how you want the image to be created and in what medium. Explain why you chose these ideas—ie. why you chose the symbolism of the design, medium, etc. (This isn't the actual art project— just an explanation of your IDEA for the art project.) For example, Pearl might best be represented by a sculpture that implies motion. Chillingworth, on the other hand, might best be rendered in a dark oil painting.

Research

- Using a Bible commentary, find OT and NT scriptures relating to adultery. Take note of how adulterous women were treated. How did Jesus respond to women either caught in adultery or known to be adulterous? (You will not turn this in. Just jot down notes so that you can participate in class discussion.)

Jr./Sr. Assignment

- Choose one of the Bible verses listed in your literature reading assignment. Create an artistic representation of the verse (a picture, creatively lettered poster, etc.— up to you!)

Honors

- Choose one of the following and write a one-page response.
 1. Read Isaiah 42:1–3, 50:4–6, and 53:1–7, three sections of Isaiah that describe the “suffering servant.” Compare these passages with Hawthorne’s description of Hester in the second and third paragraphs of Chapter 13. What might Hawthorne be saying about Hester by drawing such a close comparison?
 2. In Chapter 13, Hawthorne says Hester is not accustomed “to measure her ideas of right and wrong by any standard external to herself,” and “The world’s law was no law for her mind.” Read Judges 17:6, 21:25 and random portions of Judges. During the time of the Judges, how were the Israelites like Hester? From your spot readings in Judges, how well did the Israelites’ moral code work for them? Why might this subjective morality lead to error?

Grammar

- Read p. 155-59 (commas) in your *Handbook of Grammar and Composition*. Complete workbook p. 74-75, Ex. 152-155.

Vocabulary

- Review (and make flashcards for) the vocabulary words for chapters 12-15 of *The Scarlet Letter*. Circle or note the page number where the following words are found: **dank, expiation, firmament, imbibed, acquiescing, usurp, enigma, propensity, upbraided**. Be prepared to read aloud in class the passage in which Hawthorne uses the word.

Student: Please read and sign. I have completed all of the assignments on this assignment sheet.

Student signature: _____

Parents: Please read and sign. I have looked over my student’s work and it is complete to my satisfaction.

Parent signature: _____