

The Scarlet Letter ESSAY assignment

Name _____

Essay Question: Choose ONE

- 1) Hawthorne examines or describes many events and characters from different viewpoints, demonstrating that a person's point of reference or frame of mind can affect how he or she views reality. Two examples are the meteor in Chapter 12 (which Dimmesdale sees as a giant "A" for adultery, leading to guilt, and his sexton sees as a giant "A" for angel, leading to joy) and the letter on Dimmesdale's chest as he stands on the scaffold (which most see, but those unwilling to accept his sin claim is not there). Choose two characters, objects, or events in the story and demonstrate how Hawthorne describes them from different points of view and how this affects your impression of them. As a conclusion, describe how this technique affects the story as a whole.
- 2) Pick one of the themes we studied and answer one of the following questions:
 - a. Which character best represents this theme? Prove it and support with examples from the novel.
 - b. What was Hawthorne's purpose for this theme? What was his point or what does he want the reader to take from this theme? Prove it and support it with examples.

Final Essay Due Week 11 (November 2nd)

* Be sure to read the handout, "What Makes a Good Literature Paper" before you begin to write.

WEEK 7—Using the process you learned in class and using your *Handbook of Grammar and Composition* text as a resource (p.185-93), you will first pre-write—either brainstorming or free writing, then you will draft a working thesis, and finally you will write an informal outline (p.194-96).

DUE NEXT WEEK—

1. Evidence of your pre-write
2. Informal Outline handout (which includes your working thesis). Complete the week 7 instructions on this handout.

WEEK 8/9— Complete your informal outline. THEN, using your informal outline, write the rough draft of your essay. Your essay will have at least five paragraphs— an introduction, at least three body paragraphs, and the conclusion. Use your *Handbook of Grammar and Composition* text for information on how best to draft your introduction, body, and conclusion (see p.212-15). Use the Rough Draft Checklist you received in class to be sure your essay meets all of the requirements of a good paper.

DUE NEXT WEEK—

1. Your rough draft with parent edits. (We will also revise and edit in class next week.)

WEEK 10— Complete your final draft. **Your final essay should be 1000-1200 words.**

Please use the Final Draft Checklist provided to you. You will be graded using the PIE rubric. Be sure to look over the rubric to make certain you have all of the requirements necessary.

DUE NEXT WEEK—

1. Your final draft
2. Rough Draft
3. Completed Informal Outline Handout