

***The Scarlet Letter* Annotation Guide**

Directions: Use the following guide to help you annotate *The Scarlet Letter*. Your annotations should be detailed and thoughtful. I'm looking for QUALITY and QUANTITY!! Remember, you will be writing an essay on how Hawthorne uses literary elements throughout the novel to develop themes, characters or the plot. Focus on these areas in your annotation!

As you read the novel, look for development of the following themes, symbols, and characters. I should see annotation for these things frequently through your text. In addition, you should be keeping an index of themes/symbols in the back cover of your novel and the characters in the front cover.

Themes:

- Sin
- Hypocrisy
- Identity & Society
- Revenge
- Justice & Judgement

Characters:

- Hester Prynne
- Pearl
- Rev. Dimmesdale
- Roger Chillingworth
- The townspeople

Symbols:

- The scarlet letter
- The prison
- The scaffold
- Nature
- Sunlight
- Color

You should also annotate for Hawthorne's use of literary elements. Here are some that you will see (this list is not exhaustive – can you find others?). Keep an index of all literary elements in the back cover of your novel.

Literary Elements:

- Tone
- Foreshadowing
- Suspense
- Mood
- Imagery
- Characterization

Other annotation ideas:

- Description of the setting
- Unfamiliar words (underline AND define)
- Connections to Early American Lit. elements
- 4 cornerstones of Romanticism

****In order to receive full credit on your annotations, you should have numerous annotations per page AND they should include a variety of different types of the annotations above!!**