

English III – Summer Reading Assignment – *The Scarlet Letter*

- You are required to read and analyze *The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and complete the assignment below before the first day of school.
- You may purchase a copy of the book, or read it on line for free at:

<http://www.literatureproject.com/scarlet-letter/>

OR

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/25344/25344-h/25344-h.htm>

DIRECTIONS:

- For **EVERY FIVE CHAPTERS**, you will do **THREE** journal entries (15 entries total).
- For each entry, you must choose one of the options listed below (A-H), cite direct quote evidence, and explain your choice (an example has been done for you below).
- You have been given one graphic organizer to be used on chapters 1-5, the remaining chapters should be completed on your own paper (typed or neatly hand-written).
- Divide your chapter entries in the following way (you do not need to read the “The Custom House”):
 - Entry #1 – Chapters 1-5
 - Entry # 2 – Chapters 6-10
 - Entry #3 – Chapters 11-15
 - Entry #4 – Chapters 16-20
 - Entry #5 – Chapters 21-24

THE OPTIONS:

- A. Analyze the text for use of literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery, figurative language [simile, metaphor, etc.], allusions?). Explain the importance.
- B. Make connections between different characters or events in the text (Chapters 6-24 only)
- C. Identify an Important example of characterization – either direct or indirect. Explain the importance.
- D. CONFLICT: Describe a conflict you see. Is it internal (inside the mind of a character, such as a decision) or external (a conflict with an outside force)? Also, describe the conflict as ____ versus ____.
- E. Analyze an important passage and its relationship to the story as a whole so far.
- F. Identify emerging subplots or important shifts or turns in the main plot.
- G. Theme: Do you see any lessons start to emerge? What is the author’s message? Explain.
- H. Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or motifs and what they might represent.

Option:	Direct Quote Evidence	Explanation
H	<p>“But on one side of the portal, and rooted almost at the threshold, was a wild rose-bush covered, in this month of June, with its delicate gems, which might be imagined to offer their fragrance and fragile beauty to the prisoner as he went in, and to the condemned criminal as he came forth to his doom, in token that the deep heart of Nature could pity and be kind to him ... Finding it so directly on the threshold of our narrative, which is now about to issue from that inauspicious portal, we could hardly do otherwise than pluck one of its flowers, and present it to the reader. It may serve, let us hope, to symbolise some sweet moral blossom that may be found along the track, or relieve the darkening close of a tale of human frailty and sorrow” (p. 46).</p>	<p>The rose bush symbolizes the beauty and hope of the outside world to the prisoners, but the narrator also suggest that a rose will symbolize a moral, or message of the story.</p>

Journal Entries: Chapters 1-5

Option:	Direct Quote Evidence	Explanation
Entry #1:		
Entry #2:		
Entry #3:		