

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

READING QUIZ: *The Scarlet Letter*

To which stage or stages of PLOT do the passages in today's reading assignment belong – exposition, rising action, climax, denouement, or conclusion? Answer using a “3-sentence quotation” that identifies and interprets evidence from the text. Remember, a 3-sentence quotation includes the following elements:

- A “set-up sentence,” which describes the situation in which the passage occurs and makes brief reference to the prompt, question, or assignment,
- A direct quotation from the story, enclosed in quotation marks and followed by author/page-style citation at the end of the sentence but before final punctuation, and
- A “follow-up” sentence, in which you explain how the quotation answers the prompt, question, or assignment.

Possible student response:

After Hester Prynne is discovered by her long absent husband on public trial for adultery, she must decide whether to grant him the same anonymity with which she protects her lover.

“Why not announce thyself openly, and cast me off at once?”

“It may be,” he replied, “because I will not encounter the dishonor that besmirches the husband of a faithless woman. It may be for other reasons. Enough, it is my purpose to live and die unknown.... Breathe not the secret, above all, to the man thou wettest of...Shouldst thou fail me in this, beware! His fame, his position, his life, will be in my hands. Beware!”

“I will keep thy secret, as I have his,” said Hester. (Hawthorne 81).

Hester's promise exposes her unnamed lover to the secret machinations of her vengeful husband, driving the plot forward in its rising action.