

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

READING QUIZ: *The Scarlet Letter*

Choose a passage from today's reading assignment and write a 3-sentence quotation interpreting that passage that illustrates the story's main theme or themes. Remember, a 3-sentence quotation includes the following elements:

- A "set-up sentence," which describes the situation in which the quotation 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 a time of suffering, trial, and temptation, Arthur Dimmesdale overcomes his innate sin and the enemy of his soul and submits to God's mercy.

"Hester Prynne," cried he, with a piercing earnestness, "in the name of Him, so terrible and so merciful, who gives me grace, at this last moment, to do what—for my own heavy sin and miserable agony—I withheld myself from doing seven years ago, come hither now, and twine thy strength about me! Thy strength, Hester but let it be guided by the will which God hath granted me! This wretched and wronged old man is opposing it with all his might!—with all his own might, and the fiend's!..."

"Hadst thou sought the whole earth over," said he, looking darkly at the clergyman, "there was no one place so secret—no high place or lowly place where thou couldst have escaped me—save on this very scaffold!"

"Thanks be to Him who hath led me hither!" answered the minister.

(Hawthorne 235-236)

Arthur's decisive confession of his secret sin and flawed humanity delivers him from fear of public exposure and from the torture Chillingworth effects by working upon it; God's mercy leads him to repentance and freedom.