

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

SETTING: *The Scarlet Letter*

Find a sentence from the story that helps to describe (or “establish”) the setting. Copy the sentence on the lines below, being careful to put it in quotation marks. Then write a sentence of your own that explains how this quote establishes the story’s setting.

Sample student response:

“The founders of a new colony, whatever Utopia of human virtue and happiness they might originally project, have invariably recognized it among their earliest practical necessities to allot a portion of the virgin soil as a cemetery, and another portion as the site of a prison” (Hawthorne 55-56).

Hawthorne immediately informs the reader of the utopian impulse of the Puritan project in the Boston colony he describes, simultaneously and ironically noting the inevitable impediment to such an enterprise: human depravity.