

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 the passage that discusses the progress toward resolution of a particular conflict in the story. 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.

In the chapter entitled, "The Minister's Vigil," Reverend Dimmesdale follows his guilty heart under night's cloak to the public scaffold, where, joined by Hester and Pearl, he receives what he believes to be an omen of divine judgment:

...before Mr. Dimmesdale had done speaking, a light gleamed far and wide over all the muffled sky. It was doubtless caused by one of those meteors...And there stood the minister with his hand over his heart; and Hester Prynne, with the embroidered letter glimmering on her bosom; and little Pearl, herself a symbol, and the connecting link between those two. They stood in the noon of that strange and solemn splendor as if it were the light that is to reveal all secrets and the daybreak that shall unite all who belong to one another. (Hawthorne 1549-150)

This light the minister imagines in the shape of an A, emblazoned upon the sky, and, coming so quickly upon his proclamation to Pearl that he should never confess publicly his sin in the flesh, he considers it one of heaven's own hounds, scenting him.