

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

WORLDVIEW: *The Scarlet Letter*

Write two (2) “3-sentence quotations” explaining two (2) passages from the story that appear to illustrate contradictory worldviews. Be prepared to discuss whether/how this apparent contradiction can be explained. 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.

Quotation #1

Hawthorne begins his novel by identifying human nature as sinful.

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)

Death and punishment are natural and necessary results of human vice. So too is law.

Quotation #2

Hester and Arthur meet secretly in the sunlit, welcoming forest, where they invoke their natural freedom by removing the socially imposed stigma Hester wears upon her breast.

And as if the gloom of the earth and sky had been but the effluence of these two mortal hearts, it vanished with their sorrow. All at once, as with a sudden smile of heave, forth burst the sunshine, pouring a very flood into the obscure forest, gladdening each green leaf, transmuting the yellow fallen ones to gold, and gleaming adown the gray trunks

of the solemn trees...Such was the sympathy of Nature—that wild, heathen Nature of the forest, never subjugated by human law, nor illumined by higher truth—with the bliss of these two spirits! (Hawthorne 192-193). Nature itself seems to approve of their defiance, suggesting that law is socially imposed, unnatural, and unnecessary.