

Suffolk Public Schools
Honors English 11
Summer Assignment 2017

Summer Assignment:

Suffolk Public Schools wishes to promote a summer reading program to encourage critical reading of both classical and contemporary literature. The following mandatory assignments are designed to promote a serious academic attitude that demonstrates a high degree of self-discipline and self-motivation. A **Quiz** on the novel will be given during the first two weeks of school. **Each** of the following assignments will count as a **quiz** grade for the first nine weeks.

Read *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne: a fictional study of the effects of sin on a Puritan community, in particular on three different characters, Hester Prynne, Arthur Dimmesdale, and Roger Chillingworth. The book has 24 chapters so pace your reading.

ASSIGNMENT #1:

Step One

Research and read at least five sources about life in Puritan New England in the 1600's. No online encyclopedias or wiki sites are acceptable.

Step Two

Read each source and, using the Source Reliability Test (see worksheet attached), determine if the source is reliable. Take notes on the source and include bibliographic information following the format specified by MLA (7th Edition). Handbooks showing the format are available in the reference sections of public libraries, bookstores or on-line. Turn in a reliability test worksheet for each source.

Step Three

Write a one to two page summary of your information identifying how that information **IS OR IS NOT** evident in the *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Look for important facts about the background of the Puritans, the aim of their movement, type of government they established in the New World, important leaders contributions to literature, and their religious beliefs. Include how these facts are used in *The Scarlett Letter*. Include in-text citations and a works cited page in proper MLA format.

ASSIGNMENT #2

Choose **ONE** of the following subjects for a written creative response to the novel:

1. **Autobiographical sketch:** Imagine Pearl on her twentieth birthday, thirteen years after the events in *The Scarlet Letter*. Show how she feels about Hester, her childhood, Dimmesdale and her treatment by the Salem community. Your sketch should be at least three paragraphs.
2. **Writing in Chillingworth's Journal:** Write a series of at least three journal entries of one paragraph each that Chillingworth might have written between the time of the scene at Governor Bellingham's (Chapter VII) and the confirmation of his suspicions about the minister (Chapter X).
3. **Reverend John Wilson's Account:** Wilson was an eye witness to the scene where Dimmesdale stands on the scaffold with Hester and Pearl and confesses his sin. Write an account as Wilson might have told

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it in a letter to a friend in Salem. The account should include what he saw—or what he thought he did—and how he explained the behavior. The letter should be at least three paragraphs long.

Due Date: The summer reading assignments are due on the third day the class meets in September with the exception of seventh block classes (seventh block -- due on the sixth day the class meets). *All written work must be typed double-spaced, using 12 point Times New Roman font.*

Please note: Plagiarism will result in a grade of ZERO (0).

Plagiarism “is the un-credited use (both intentional and unintentional) of somebody else's words or ideas” (Owl of Purdue available at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>).

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Failure to document with quotation marks any material copied directly from other sources.
2. Use of others’ work as one’s own, particularly in the written expression.
3. Use of others’ ideas as one’s own for academic pursuits or profit.

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Summer Assignment Rubric

	<i>Ideas and Content</i>	<i>Evidence and Elaboration</i>	<i>Purpose and Organization</i>	<i>Conventions</i>
Exceptional	Presents a unifying theme or main idea without going off topic; Provides ample information; stays focused on topic. (25 points)	Provides thorough and convincing support/evidence for the main idea and supporting ideas that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details; Clearly and effectively elaborates ideas, uses precise language. (25 points)	Clear and effective organizational structure, creates a sense of unity and completeness; Response is fully supported and consistently and purposefully focused. (25 points)	Adequate use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling. (25 points)
Proficient	Presents a unifying theme or main idea with minor digressions; stays mostly focused on topic. (22 points)	Provides adequate support/evidence for the main idea and supporting ideas that includes the use of sources, facts, and details; Adequately elaborates ideas, uses a mix of precise and more general language. (22 points)	Evidence of organizational structure and a sense of completeness; May be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected; Response is adequately supported and generally focused. (22 points)	Limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling. (22 points)
Progressing	Attempts to present a unifying theme or main idea; stays somewhat focused on topic. (19 points)	Provides uneven, superficial support/evidence for the main idea and supporting ideas that includes uneven or limited use of sources, facts, and details; Elaborates ideas unevenly, uses simplistic language. (19 points)	Inconsistent organizational structure, and flaws are evident; Response is somewhat supported and may have a minor drift in focus. (19 points)	Infrequent use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling. (19 points)
Needs Improvement	Attempts to present a main idea or the main idea is difficult to identify; response loses focus or does not establish a focus. (17 points)	Provides minimal support/evidence for the main idea and supporting ideas that includes little to no use of sources, facts, and details; Vague, lacks clarity, or is confusing. (17 points)	Little or no organizational structure; Response may be related to the topic but may provide little to no focus. (17 points)	Little to no use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling. (17 points)

Score _____/100

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Name _____ Date _____ Block _____

Source Reliability Test

Evaluate each source and answer the questions as appropriate. Please use a separate checklist for each source. After evaluation, decide how reliable the source is on a scale of 1-10.

(1 = completely unreliable, 10 = extremely reliable)

Source Reliability:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Currency: *timeliness of the information*

- When was the information published or posted? _____
- Has the information been revised or updated? _____
- Is the information current or out-of-date for you topic? _____

Relevance: *importance of the information for your needs*

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question? _____
- Who is the intended audience? _____
- Is the information at an appropriate level? _____

Authority: *source of the information*

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? _____
- Are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given? _____
- What are the author's qualifications to write on the topic? _____
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address? _____

Accuracy: *reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content*

- Where does the information come from? _____
- Is the information supported by evidence? _____
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed? _____
- Can you verify any of the information in another source? _____
- Are there spelling, grammar, or other typographical errors? _____

Purpose: *the reason the information exists*

- What is the purpose of the information? _____
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purposes clear? _____
- Is the information fact? Opinion? Propaganda? _____
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? _____
- Are there any biases? _____