

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## American Literature Summer Reading Assignment

### Read and annotate the following work:

- *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
  - \*Must be purchased—ISBN: 9781593082079
- *The Pima Stories*, Anonymous Author
  - \*See Attachment

### Supplementary Requirements:

- Define the following literary terms:
  - **Stigma**
- Annotate both literary documents with at least 20 annotations (post-it notes or index cards) for *The Scarlet Letter* and at least 5 annotations for “The Pima Stories”.

### Essay:

- **Essay Requirements**
  - 2-4 pages in length
  - MLA format (Works Cited Page Required)
  - At least 1 direct quote per paragraph in your paper from either primary document
  - No required secondary sources—if secondary sources are used, the sources **must be** reliable
    - **\*Please use Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary for all definitions\***
  - Assignment **must be** submitted via Turnitin.com
    - Login information will be provided on the first day of school
  - **HARD COPY REQUIRED**
- **Directions:** You will write a character analysis essay on one of the three following characters: Hester Prynne, Arthur Dimmesdale, Pearl, Roger Chillingworth. In your response you should analyze each portion of the “character analysis points” that are listed below. You **may not** use first person in your paper.
- **Compare and Contrast**
  - Venn-Diagram/1 page compare and contrast on “The Pima Stories” version of creation, and the Biblical version of creation in Genesis
- **Directions:** You will compare and contrast the different accounts of creation. This is informal. You can write either a Venn-diagram or a 1 page compare and contrast piece.

### Tips on Writing a Character Analysis Essay

#### Character Analysis List for this Essay

*Directions:* Address each of the following categories described below.

- **Name of Character and Novel** *in which the character appears*
- **Physical Characteristics** *(Voice, Posture/Walk/Demeanor/Dress, Distinguishing Marks, Gestures/Emotion etc.)*
- **Background** *(Family life/Character's History, Occupation, Personal interests/pursuits, Beliefs)*
- **Motivations/Purpose** *(For the entire novel—is this person successful or unsuccessful; fails or succeeds)*
- **Development or Changes in Character** *(Throughout the course of the novel)*
- **Tactics/Will** *(Conflict with self/nature/man/society? Threatening to others? Strong or weak will power? Moral responsibility to others? Honest with self and others?)*
- **Judgement** *(View of character in eyes of others, i.e. author, society, other characters, etc.)*

## How to Write a Character Analysis Essay

- **What is a Character Analysis Essay?**
  - In a deeper sense, this is a type of essay which requires understanding of the character in question. These kinds of essays are usually to understand protagonists and antagonists in any literary piece. One of the aims would be to make a profile and analyze characters well.
- **What is the purpose of a Character Analysis Essay?**
  - More than to fulfill a requirement, this type of essay mainly helps us understand the character and the world he/she lives in. One of the important purposes of this essay is to look at the anatomy of a character in the story and dissect who he/she is. We must be able to study how the character was shaped and then learn from his/her life.
- **How to Write a Character Analysis Essay?**
  - Take note of the setting, climax, and other important literary parts. You must be able to feel and see through the characters. Observe how the writer shaped these characters into life. Notice how little or how vast the identities of the characters were described. Look at the characters' morals and behavior and how it affects situations and other characters in the story. Observe characters that you find interesting.
- **How to start a Character Analysis Essay?**
  - Choose a character you'd like to write about. Sometimes, a character will be readily assigned to you. It's wise to consider characters that are round since these kinds of characters will be really interesting and you will have a lot of things to write about these characters. Take notes as you read through the piece and read through the rubric given to you by an instructor. When you're finished reading with your character in mind, review your notes, and formulate the main idea about a character. Make an initial draft while taking note of the character analysis essay outline provided by your instructor. If you're not provided with a sample, you may follow this format:

- **Introduction:**
  - Make it brief and meaningful. It should hold together your whole essay and should spark interest in people. Write a short description of the character in question.
- **Body:**
  - Subdivide your body paragraphs into different ideas or areas to be considered regarding the character. Look at your professor's rubric and make sure that you'll be able to tackle the things required. You should also be provided with questions to be answered to better formulate your analysis. The body should answer the following questions:
    - What is the character's physical appearance, personality and background?
    - What were the conflicts that the character experienced and how did he/she overcome them?
    - What can we learn from this character?
- **Conclusion:**
  - Your conclusion should also hold together your ideas and should shape a final analysis statement. Mention things about the character's conflicts which we can experience in real life. Also, you can write about how a character should've reacted to a certain situation.

(Information taken from EssayPro.com)