

THE SCARLET LETTER
VOCABULARY

CHAPTER ONE

1. THRONG: (PG. 55) a great number of persons crowded together.
2. EDIFICE: (PG. 55) a large, usually impressive building.
3. UTOPIA: (PG. 55) a place or state of political or social perfection. Comes from a novel by Sir Thomas Moore about a perfect society.
4. ALLOT: (PG. 55) to divide or distribute in shares.
5. SEASONABLE: (PG. 55) timely or opportune.
6. SEPULCHRES: (PG. 55) a burial vault built of rock or stone.
7. PONDEROUS: (PG. 55) weighty or clumsy.
8. CONGENIAL: (PG. 56) pleasant, friendly.
9. INAUSPICIOUS: (PG. 56) not prosperous.
10. PORTAL: (PG. 56) a doorway of imposing appearance.

CHAPTER TWO

11. PHYSIOGNOMIES: (PG. 57) the facial features held to show qualities of mind or character by their configuration or expression.
12. AUGURED: (PG. 57) foretold.
13. BETOKENED: (PG. 57) given evidence of.
14. TRIBUNAL: (PG. 57) a court of forum of justice.
15. INFERENCE: (PG. 57) the act of passing from one proposition, statement, or judgment considered as true to another whose truth is believed to follow from that of the former.
16. INDUBITABLY: (PG. 57) unquestionably.
17. ANTINOMIAN: (PG. 57) one who rejects a socially established morality.
18. HETERODOX: (PG. 57) holding unorthodox opinions or doctrines.
19. SCOURGED: (PG. 57) to subject to severe criticism or satire.
20. FIREWATER: (PG. 57) strong alcoholic beverage.
21. MAGISTRATE: (PG. 57) a local official exercising administrative and often judicial functions.
22. GALLOWES: (PG. 57) the punishment of hanging.
23. VENERABLE: (PG. 58) made sacred especially by religious or historical association.
24. MEAGRE: (PG. 58) lacking desirable qualities; meager.
25. TRANSGRESSOR: (PG. 58) violator.
26. SCAFFOLD: (PG. 58) a platform on which a criminal is executed.
27. INFAMY: (PG. 58) evil reputation brought about by something grossly criminal, shocking, or brutal.
28. IMPROPRIETY: (PG. 58) the quality or state of being improper.
29. FARTHINGALE: (PG. 58) a support worn in the 16th century beneath a skirt to expand it at the hip line.
30. FIBRE: (PG. 58) basic toughness.
31. ROTUNDITY: (PG. 58) rounded.
32. BEHOOF: (PG. 59) advantage, profit.
33. MALEFACTRESSES: (PG. 59) a person who violates the law or does evil.
34. TROW: (PG. 59) believe.
35. AUTUMAL: (PG. 59) a period of maturity or

- incipient decline.
36. BAGGAGE: (PG. 59) a worthless or contemptible woman; prostitute.
 37. HEATHENISH: (PG. 59) barbarous.
 38. BEADLE: (PG. 60) a minor parish official whose duties include ushering and preserving order at services and sometimes civil functions.
 39. ABASHED: (PG. 60) to destroy the self-confidence of.
 40. SUMPTUARY: (PG. 60) designed to regulate habits on moral or religious grounds.
 41. GENTILITY: (PG. 60) the members of the upper class.
 42. EVANESCENT: (PG. 61) tending to vanish like vapor.
 43. IGNOMINY: (PG. 61) disgraceful or dishonorable conduct, quality, or action.
 44. BRAZEN: (PG. 61) marked by contemptuous boldness.
 45. HUSSY: (PG. 61) a saucy or mischievous girl.
 46. MERIDIAN: (PG. 62) midday; noon.
 47. INIQUITY: (PG. 62) wickedness.
 48. VISAGE: (PG. 62) appearance.
 49. SPURN: (PG. 63) stumble.
 50. PILLORY: (PG. 65) a means to expose one to public scorn and humility.
 51. FLAGRANT: extremely or purposefully conspicuous usually because of uncommon objectionable or evil.
 52. MIEN: appearance; aspect.
 53. VIED: exchanged in rivalry.
 54. TAINTED: contaminated mark or influence.
 55. CONTUMELY: rude language or treatment arising from haughtiness and contempt.
 56. COUNTENANCES: looks; expressions.
 57. MERRIMENT: (PG. 64) lighthearted gaiety or fun making.
 58. PRETERNATURAL: exceeding what is natural or regular.
 59. HEWN: strictly conformed.
 60. PHANTASMAGORIC: a scene that constantly changes.
 61. REMONSTRANCE: (PG. 65) objection.
 62. CLOISTER: an area within a monastery or convent to which the religious are normally restricted.
 63. ETYMOLOGIST: studies word derivation.
 64. DEMEANOR: behavior toward others; outward manner.

CHAPTER THREE

65. FURROWS: (PG. 67) wrinkles.
66. HETEROGENEOUS: (PG. 67) different in kind.
67. ABATE: (PG. 67) put an end to.
68. WRITHING: (PG. 67) to twist in pain; to suffer keenly.
69. INTERVOLUTIONS: (PG. 67)
70. SOJOURN: (PG. 68) a temporary stay.
71. INIQUITY: (PG. 68) wickedness.
72. MARRY: (PG. 68) to express amused or surprised agreement.
73. EXPOUND: (PG. 68) to explain in careful and elaborate detail.
74. PERADVENTURE: (PG. 68) perhaps.
75. BETWIXT: (PG. 70) between.
76. HALBERDS: (PG. 70) a weapon consisting typically of a battle ax and pike mounted on a handle about 6 feet long.
77. TUNIC: (PG. 70) a hip-length or longer blouse or jacket.

78. SAGACITY: (PG. 70) of keen mind: shrewd.
 79. MIEN: (PG. 70)
 80. OBSTINACY: (PG. 71) fixed and unyielding; stubborn.
 81. ALBEIT: (PG. 71) although.
 82. FERVOR: (PG. 72) intensity of feeling or expression.
 83. LURID: (PG. 72) gruesome; sensational.
 84. GARB: (PG. 66) clothing.
 85. IGNOMINIOUS: (PG. 69) shameful.

CHAPTER FOUR

86. SAGAMORES: (PG. 76) a subordinate chief of the Algonquian Indians of the north Atlantic coast.
 87. AMENABLE: (PG. 76) willing to yield or submit: agreeable.
 88. PEREMPTORY: (PG. 76) leaving no opportunity for denial or refusal.
 89. ALCHEMY: (PG. 76) a power or process of transforming something common into something precious.
 90. AVENGE: (PG. 77) to exact satisfaction for a wrong by punishing the wrongdoer.
 91. INQUEST: (PG. 80) inquiry, investigation.
 92. AUGHT: (PG. 80) nothing.
 93. PARAMOUR: (PG. 80) an illicit lover.
 94. WOTTEST: (PG. 81) to have knowledge of or to know.

CHAPTER FIVE

95. VIVIFY: (PG. 83) to endure with life or renew life: animate.
 96. CLAUSE: (PG. 83) a separate section of a discourse or writing.
 97. ASSIMILATE: (PG. 83) to absorb into the cultural tradition of a population or group.
 98. TINGE: (PG. 83) an affective or modifying property or influence: touch.
 99. UNCONGENIAL: (PG. 83) unfriendly.
 100. THATCHED: (PG. 84) a house used as a sheltering cover made of a plant material.
 101. FAIN: (PG. 85) rather.
 102. PROGENITORS: (PG.85) an ancestor in the direct line: forefather.
 103. PLEBEIAN: (PG. 86) one of the common people.
 104. EMOLUMENT: (PG. 86) advantage.
 105. COMMISERATION (PG. 86) to feel or express sympathy: condole.
 106. CONTUMACIOUSLY: (PG. 90) stubbornly disobedient: rebellious.
 107. TALISMAN: (PG. 90) something producing apparently magical or miraculous effects.

CHAPTER SIX

108. EFFICACY: (PG. 91) effective as a means of remedy.
 109. RUSSET: (PG. 92) a coarse brownish homespun cloth.
 110. IMBUED: (PG. 92) inspired as with feelings, opinions, etc.
 111. MUTABILITY: (PG. 93) subject to change.
 112. EPOCH: (PG. 93) a point in time marked by the beginning of anew development or state of things.
 113. REGIMEN: (PG. 93) to organize.
 114. CAPRICE; (PG. 94) a sudden, impulsive change: whim.
 115. INFANTILE: (PG. 95) characteristic of infancy

- or infants: babyish.
 116. SMOTE: (PG. 97) having struck something.
 117. DEARTH: (PG. 97) scarcity, lack, or famine.
 118. GESTICULATION: (PG. 99) expression through gestures.
 119. LABYRINTH: (PG. 100) any intricate or perplexing set of difficulties: maze.
 120. AMENABLE: (PG. 93) agreeable.
 121. NURTURE: (PG. 96) care for; raise up.
 122. ENMITY: (PG. 97) established hatred.
 123. PATERNITY: (PG. 100) father.

CHAPTER SEVEN

124. LUDICROUS: (PG. 101) amusing or laughable through obvious absurdity, incongruity, exaggeration, or eccentricity.
 125. EMINENCE: (PG. 102) position of prominence or superiority.
 126. PRISTINE: (PG. 102) uncorrupt by civilization.
 127. INTRINSIC: (PG. 102) originating or situated within the body or part acted on.
 128. IMPERIOUS: (PG. 102) commanding; dominant.
 129. AKIN: (PG. 102) similar.
 130. TUNIC: (PG. 102) a hip-length or longer blouse or jacket.
 131. WAN: (PG. 102) pale or sickly.
 132. PALLID: (PG. 102) deficient in color: dull.
 133. DAUNTLESS: (PG. 103) fearless, undaunted.
 134. EXTANT: (PG. 103) not destroyed or lost.
 135. CABALISTIC: (PG. 104) esoteric doctrine or mysterious art.
 136. CAPER: (PG. 104) a gay, bounding leap.
 137. FLANKED: (PG. 104) to be situated on the side: border.
 138. FORSOOTH: (PG. 107) indeed.
 139. EMBOWED: (PG. 105) arched.
 140. FOLIO: (PG. 105) a book of the largest size.
 141. TOME: (PG. 105) a volume forming part of a larger work.
 142. GILDED: (PG. 105) to overlay with or as if with a thin covering of gold.
 143. MAIL: (PG. 106) armor made of metal links or sometimes plates.
 144. BURNISHED: (PG. 106) polished.
 145. PANOPLY: (PG. 106) full suit of armor.
 146. MUSTER: (PG. 106) formal military inspection.
 147. EXIGENCES: (PG. 106) a state of affairs that makes urgent demands.
 148. PHYSIOGNOMY: (PG. 106) facial features held to show quality of mind or character by their configuration or expression.
 149. BREADTH: (PG. 106) something of full width.
 150. VISTA: (PG. 107) a distant view through or an avenue or pathway.
 151. RELINQUISH: (PG. 107) leave behind.
 152. SUBSISTENCE: (PG. 107) real being: existence.
 153. ANNALS: (PG. 107) historical records: chronicles.

CHAPTER EIGHT

154. EXPATIATING: (PG. 108) enlarging in discourse or writing.
 155. ANTIQUATE: (PG. 108) obsolete.
 156. UNFEIGNEDLY: (PG.108) not pretending.

157. BEHEST: (PG. 108) an earnest request.
158. BENEVOLENCE: (PG. 109) desiring to do good to others.
159. BEDIZEN: (PG. 109) to dress in a gaudy or vulgar manner.
160. ALBEIT: (PG. 111) although or even if.
161. WARILY: (PG. 111) cautiously.
162. PIOUS: (PG. 111) of or pertaining to religious devotion.
163. IMBIBES: (PG. 111) to take or receive into the mind.
164. AMISS: (PG. 111) improper.
165. INDEFEASABLE: (PG. 112) not to be annulled or made void.
166. EMACIATED: (PG. 113) to make very thin, as to lack of nutrition or to disease.
167. MOUNTEBANK: (PG. 114) any charlatan or quack..
168. BOON: (PG. 114) a favor sought.
169. ADDUCED: (PG. 114) to bring forward as in argument or as evidence.
170. VEHEMENCE: (PG. 115) forceful or violent.
171. UNOBTRUSIVE: (PG. 115) not conspicuous.
172. CHARGER: (PG. 108) plate or platter.