



ENGLISH III

The Scarlet Letter

Your "test" over *The Scarlet Letter* will involve some group and individual activities. As a "legal team," you will be responsible for defending your "client" during the trial which will commence when we have finished reading the book. Working together as a legal team and client, you will present to a jury the effects of sin on your particular client's life. You will also try to convince the jury that the other two major characters are more guilty (sinful) than your client. Everyone on the legal team is expected to participate. The trial will be conducted in the following way:

Opening Statements

1. Hester Prynne and her legal counsel
A prepared speech (6 minutes)
2. Roger Chillingworth and his legal counsel
A prepared speech (6 minutes)
3. Arthur Dimmesdale and his legal counsel
A prepared speech (6 minutes)

Cross Examination

1. The Chillingworth team's cross examination of Hester Prynne (3-5 minutes)
2. The Dimmesdale team's cross examination of Hester Prynne (3-5 minutes)
3. The Prynne team's cross examination of Chillingworth (3-5 minutes)
4. The Dimmesdale team's cross examination of Chillingworth (3-5 minutes)
5. The Prynne team's cross examination of Dimmesdale (3-5 minutes)
6. The Chillingworth team's cross examination of Dimmesdale (3-5 minutes)

Period of Refutation

This means that your team has the opportunity to offer a defense in response to any statements against your client which have been made by another team during the opening statements or the period of cross examination. (3-5 minutes per team)

Closing Statements

1. Prynne team (3 minutes)
2. Dimmesdale team (3 minutes)
3. Chillingworth team (3 minutes)

Jury Decision

The jury's decision concerning who was most affected by sin and who was the most sinful is due the day after the trial is concluded. The jury will be asked to present a written (typed) summary of each character's presentation, commenting on the strengths and weaknesses of each presentation. Closing remarks to the court regarding the jury's decision should be made, and remarks to the characters are also permitted.



As you read, you will need to search for evidence for or against particular characters. Your notes should consist, not of your opinions, but facts (quotes) gleaned from the text that will later form the basis of your presentations, questions, and refutations during the court session. You have been given some reading charts to help you with this process. You are also welcome to search your Bibles or any other source as you seek to understand the concept of sin in your (or the other) character's life (lives).

Legal teams will need to turn in the text of their prepared speeches and any other relevant material they plan to use at trial. ALL students should be prepared to turn in the writing they did during the reading of the book in an effort to prepare for the trial. This written material should be in INK (typing is even better) and in legible, understandable form.

Due the day of the trial:

- Each legal team's *typed* 6-minute prepared speech
- Questions and possible refutations prepared for the trial
- Each legal team's *typed*, prepared closing argument

Everyone's (legal teams and jurors) reading guide, completed!

Due the day after the trial:

- Each juror's *typed* decision