

**Characterization in *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne**

**Annotation Guide**

**Directions:** Complete the following guided reading and annotation to support your analysis of character in *The Scarlet Letter*.

**Chapters Three and Four**

**Activity One:** Read paragraphs 1-3 of Chapter 3 of *The Scarlet Letter* which focus on describing Chillingworth.

List connotative diction that reveals Chillingworth's character:

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Looking at the connotative diction you highlighted, what kind of character is the author creating in Chillingworth?

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**Activity Two:** Look again at paragraphs 1-3 of chapter 3 of *The Scarlet Letter*.

Highlight in a different color figurative language used to describe Chillingworth.

*Complete the following:*

Hawthorne compares Chillingworth to \_\_\_\_\_ in order to show that Chillingworth is

\_\_\_\_\_. This

comparison shows this because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Activity Three:** Review Chillingworth's dialogue in chapters 3 and 4.

List details that reveal Chillingworth's characters in this dialogue.

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List 2-3 character traits that you can infer Chillingworth possesses based on the textual evidence you identified in the dialogue.

### Chapter Six

**Activity Four** Read the first five paragraphs of Chapter 6 of *The Scarlet Letter* which focus on Pearl.

- Write the quote that reveals the meaning of Pearl's name

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**Activity Five:** Fill the chart with words that Hawthorne uses to describe aspects of Pearl's character.

Physical Description	Behavioral Description

How does the contrast in Pearl's physical and behavioral description develop her as a character?

**Activity Six:** Read paragraphs 7-9.

- List words and phrases that describe the setting.

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- List words and phrases that describe Pearl's behavior in each setting.

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**Activity Seven:** Respond to the following in 5-8 complete sentences: How does Hawthorne use Pearl's character to help develop settings in Chapter 6? What does this reveal about Pearl, Hester, and/ or Puritan society?

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## **Chapter Eight**

**Activity Eight:** Read the last five paragraphs of Chapter 8 of *The Scarlet Letter* which focus on an interaction between Mistress Hibbins and Hester Prynne.

**Activity Nine:** Fill the chart with connotative diction that Hawthorne uses to describe each woman.

<u>Mistress Hibbins</u>	<u>Hester Prynne</u>

Complete the following:

In chapter 8 Hawthorne depicts Mistress Hibbins as \_\_\_\_\_ and

*Character trait*

\_\_\_\_\_ by describing her with words like \_\_\_\_\_,

*Character trait*

\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ while

Hester's personality seems more \_\_\_\_\_ and

*Character trait*

\_\_\_\_\_ because of the use of diction such as

*Character trait*

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_ describing her.

**Activity Ten:** Respond to the following in 5-8 complete sentences: What is Hawthorne's purpose for including Mistress Hibbins in the story. What does she represent?

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