Name:_____

The Scarlet Letter Essay Prompts

Choose one of the following prompts to write an essay on

1. What is the role of Mistress Hibbins in the novel? She is not a major character, but think about why Hawthorne decided to include this character in the novel. Find evidence in the text to support your answer.

2. When she is a child, Pearl is often referred to an "imp," "elf," or even a "demon." Do you believe Pearl is any of these things, or is she just a child? Find evidence in the text to support you answer.

3. *The Scarlet Letter* is filled with many symbols, such as Pearl, the letter itself, and the meteor. Choose a symbol and write an essay explaining what the symbol stands for and its importance to the novel. Find evidence in the text to support your answer.

4. How has Hester's adultery and the wearing of the scarlet letter affected Pearl? Have they affected her in a negative or positive way? Find evidence in the text to support your answer.