The Scarlet Letter

Chapters 1–2
While reading

1 Write the names to finish the sentences.
Boston  Hester Prynne  John Wilson
Arthur Dimmesdale  Roger Chillingworth
a ……………… doesn’t want to tell some people a name.
b ……………… is a small town in Massachusetts.
c ……………… loved Hester very much when he married her.
d ……………… is the oldest minister in Boston.
e ……………… is the youngest minister in town and is sad for Hester.

2 Put sentences (a–g) with sentences (1–7).

a “I waited two years for you. Where were you?” …..
b “Give your child a father. Tell me his name.” …..
c “I did not love you. You knew that.” …..
d “I hurt you. I am sorry.” …..
e “Do not ask. You will never know.” …..
f “Hester Prynne is a child of the Devil.” …..
g “I promise.” …..

1) “Good! Now I will leave you with your child and the scarlet letter.”
2) “I know. But you were always in my heart. I loved you very much.”
3) “I lived with the wild people in the woods and the mountains.”
4) “I will never speak. My child has a father in heaven.”
5) “No. I hurt you first when I married you.”
6) “That is right. Why don’t they punish her with fire?”
7) “Will you never tell me?”

Chapters 3–4

3 Put a word on the left with a word on the right.
outside  son
gave  took
coldly  teach
daughter  inside
learn  lose
find  answer
ask  warmly

4 Answer these questions about Chapter 4.

a What did the Governor want to do?
………………………………………………
b Why did he want to do it?
………………………………………………
c What did Hester want?
………………………………………………
d Who spoke for Hester?
………………………………………………
e What did the Governor say at the end of the conversation?
………………………………………………
f What did Pearl do then?
………………………………………………

5 Finish these sentences from Chapter 4.

a Some people in town believe that Hester Prynne is teaching …..
b There are three other men at …..
c The governor says that Pearl has to live with another family because …..
d The scarlet letter can’t teach Hester anything, but …..
e The governor is very angry because …..
f The young minister says that the sinful mother will be happier than …..
g The governor finally says the child can stay with her mother but she …..
h Chillingworth thinks he can find …..

1) the governor’s large house.
2) her daughter wrong things.
3) it can help her little child.
4) the sinful father.
5) has to learn about the God.
6) Pearl knows nothing about God.
7) the father of the child.
8) her mother is a sinful woman.

Chapters 5–6

6 Finish the sentences with the right name.

Dimmesdale  Chillingworth  Pearl

a ……………… was sick.
b ……………… moved into the same house as Dimmesdale.
c ……………… was angry because somebody wanted to help him.
d ……………… ran and danced in the yard.
e ……………… said, “Does she come from God or from the Devil?”
7 Finish the sentences with the right word from the box.

face hand heart idea light minister morning platform speaker square tomorrow sinner

a Arthur Dimmesdale was the most famous .......... in the town.
b “He is a wonderful ..........,” people said.
c He wanted to tell everybody the secret in his .......... .
d “I am the worst .......... in this town.”
e Then one night he had an .......... .
f He climbed up the stairs to the .......... .
g “I shall wait here for the .......... ,” he thought.
h Suddenly he saw Hester below him in the .......... .
i Hester took her daughter’s .......... and climbed up on the platform.
j “Will you stand here with me and Mother ..........?” said Pearl to the minister.
k There was a sudden strange red .......... in sky.
l They saw the .......... of Roger Chillingworth.

Chapters 7–8

8 Finish the sentences.

a Arthur does not know that his friend, the doctor, .......... .
b Before Chillingworth’s face was nice but now .......... .
c Hester now knows that her promise to Chillingworth was .......... .
d Hester wanted to talk to the minister as soon as possible, but he .......... .
e In town, the minister tried to smile, but in the woods, .......... .
f Arthur is angry with Hester because she didn’t .......... .

9 Are these sentences right (√) or wrong (✗)?

a When Hester first saw the minister in the woods, he looked happy. ✗
b Arthur felt sad because the townspeople didn’t like him. ✗
c After a few minutes, Arthur forgave Hester for her secret. ✗
d Hester and Arthur never wanted to hurt anybody. ✗
e Hester thought she could start a new life with Pearl and Arthur. ✗
f Hester took the scarlet letter from her breast and gave it to Arthur. ✗
g Pearl hated Hester’s scarlet letter. ✗

10 Circle the right word or words.

a Hester called her daughter nice girl / strange child.
b Pearl stopped crying when she saw Arthur / the scarlet letter.
c Hester did not want to find / lose Arthur.
d Hester and Arthur’s sin was born of love / hate.
e Pearl looked at Arthur happily / angrily before she ran away to the river.
f Finally, Pearl washed her face / hands in the river.

Chapters 9–10

11 Underline the wrong word and put the right one.

a The minister asked about airplanes to England. .......... .
b The doctor wanted to give the minister something to make him weak. .......... .
c The minister threw some books onto the fire. .......... .
d The man from the ship had white teeth. .......... .
e Everybody shouted angrily when the important people walked into the square. .......... .
f Hester waited in the church next to the platform. .......... .
g The minister opened his coat to the crowd. .......... .
h Pearl kissed her father on the hand. .......... .
i Chillingworth died two or three years after Dimmesdale. .......... .
The Scarlet Letter

1 Underline the wrong word and put the right one.
   a Hester Prynne was a tall woman, with a strong, ugly face. .................
   b When Hester saw the doctor in the prison, she felt happy. .................
   c Pearl had many friends in Boston. .................
   d Governor Bellingham was the most important woman in Boston. .................
   e The young minister was a well man. .................
   f The old minister stood on the platform one night. .................
   g Chillingworth had a friendly face when he met Hester near the beach. .................
   h Pearl started to laugh when she saw her mother without the scarlet letter. .................
   i The man from the ship was unhappy because the doctor wanted to go on his ship too. .................

2 Are these sentences right (√) or wrong (×)?
   a The townspeople looked at Hester with hate when she was on the platform. √
   b Pearl loved the children in town and always played with them. ×
   c Some people in town wanted to take Hester’s daughter away from her. ×
   d The doctor thought that a man can be sick because of a secret. √
   e Chillingworth’s life was in Dimmesdale’s hands. ×
   f The townspeople thought Dimmesdale was a very good man. √
   g Governor Winthrop was alone when he died. ×
   h Dimmesdale often held his hand over his heart. √
   i Arthur was happy when Hester talked of going back to England. ×

3 Circle the wrong word in the sentences.
   a The prison was a small, dark building outside from the town.
   b Chillingworth took to Hester to Europe.

4 Circle the right word or words.
   a The townspeople wanted to kill / help Hester.
   b The doctor gave the baby something on a plate / spoon.
   c Pearl was a wild / quiet child.
   d Pearl said, “My mother found me in the woods / flowers.”
   e Dimmesdale heart was as hot as the sun / fire.
   f Dimmesdale thought he was the worst minister / sinner in town.
   g Dimmesdale stood on the platform / at the church all night long.
   h Hester told nobody about Chillingworth for two / seven years.
   i In the woods, the minister’s eyes were without hope / love.

5 What happened first? Number the sentences, 1–10.
   a The minister talked to Pearl on the platform in the square.
   b Arthur died.
   c Hester returned to Boston.
   d Mr. Wilson asked Pearl some questions.
   e A man from a ship talked to Hester.
   f Hester stood on a platform for four hours.
   g Hester talked to Arthur about going to England.
   h Chillingworth left a lot of money to Pearl.
   i Hester made a promise to the doctor.
   j Chillingworth found out the minister’s secret.