

Scarlet Letter Chapter 1-5 Vocabulary

Chapter One

Ponderous: thinking deeply about

Pertains: concerns, has to do with

Edifice: especially large and imposing building

Inauspicious: not favorable, unlucky

Chapter Two

Physiognomies: facial features which allow insight into a character

Indubitably: unquestionably

Venerable: respectable because of age, history, or religious association

Behoove: in the interest of, to the benefit of

Iniquity: act that is unjust or unrighteous

Ignominious: shameful

Haughty: arrogant, proud in a rude way

Serene: calm, peaceful

Gripe: to hold

Inferred: to draw a conclusion

Disdainful: scornful, snobby

Phantasmagoric: rapidly changing series of images (life flashing before your eyes)

Remonstrance: objection, complaint

Cloister: monastery, convent

Chapter Three

Visage: face

Manifest: to make evident, obvious

Heterogeneous: of differing origins, not all the same kind

Imperceptible: not easily noticeable

Sagacity: wisdom, sound judgment

Eminent: high rank or position

Tremulous: trembling

Insensibility: unawareness

Chapter Four

Pervaded: spread throughout

Amendable: cooperative

Demeanor: outward behavior

Misbegotten: of wrongful origin

Efficacy: effectiveness

Expostulation: strong objection

Feigned: pretend

Interpret: to make and reveal a meaning

Chapter Five

Lurid: vivid in a shocking way

Annihilate: destroy completely

Inscrutable: mysterious, not easy to understand

Repugnance: disgust towards, extreme dislike

Exhortation: warning

Talisman: magical object, a charm