

IB Language A1 (HL – Year 1)
Summer Reading Assignments

THE SCARLET LETTER (Custom House) – Nathaniel Hawthorne

Assignment 1 – Early American Colonialism (17th Century) – Holistic Research

Research each of the following to develop a holistic understanding of the background information for reading and analyzing THE SCARLET LETTER (Be sure to document your sources in MLA format on a Bibliography page):

NO WIKIPEDIA ALLOWED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- a. The Puritan Migration (Great Migration of 1620-1640)
- b. Church of England
- c. John Calvin
- d. Puritans
- e. Pilgrims
- f. Separatists
- g. Quakers (Society of Friends)
- h. Massachusetts Bay Colony (Boston 1629)
- i. John Endicott
- j. John Winthrop
- k. General Court
- l. Theocracy
- m. Autocracy
- n. Puritan Punishments
- o. The Custom House (Boston, Massachusetts)

Assignment 2 – Seminar Discussion Questions

After reading “The Custom House,” complete the seminar discussion questions to prepare yourself for the class analysis of the reading.

(Complete Text & Questions attached)

Assignment 3 – Analytical Commentary

Read the essay, ““The Custom House” as Hawthorne’s Dramatization of His Dilemma” by Hsiou-ling Lyu. Analyze the essay and develop an 800-1200 word commentary on the essay and its relationship to the “sketch”. Be sure to use examples from the reading to support your ideas.

(Essay attached)

*NOTE – This should be a commentary on what you think about the essay and its connection to your reading and understanding of “The Custom House.” What aspects of the essay do you agree/disagree with and why? What parts of the essay do you find intriguing? Confusing? What is your overall impression of Lyu’s argument?

Due Dates:

Assignment 1 – August 30th (A-Day)/August 31st (B-Day), 2017

Assignment 2 – September 6th (A-Day)/7th (B-Day), 2017

Assignment 3 – September 18th, 2017

Assignments are due from all students on the posted dates by midnight of that day. Due dates may be subject to change.