Wrap-Up

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Dimmesdale insists it is God's will for him to confess, and he would have been lost forever if he had not. He seems to believe he is going to heaven.

2. Dimmesdale tells people that it is possible to hide sin from others, but not from God, angels, and the devil; God's judgment will always be on a sinner, even if others do not realize it.

3. Chillingworth tries to prevent Dimmesdale from confessing, but admits that confession was Dimmesdale's only way to escape the devil.

4. Pearl kisses her father, cries, feels sympathy, and will not stop battling the world and be part of it.

5. Hester asks Dimmesdale if they will be able to spend eternity together, expressing her belief that they have suffered enough on earth to have earned a reward.

6. Dimmesdale tells Hester that they may not spend eternity together because they forgot God and “violated our reverence each for the other's soul”; however, he does add that God is “merciful.” (Pg. 199)

7. Dimmesdale claims that Chillingworth was sent by God to “keep the torture always at red-heat!” (Pg. 199) Chillingworth, therefore, is an act of mercy because if Dimmesdale had been able to put his sin out of his mind, he might not have confessed.

8. Dimmesdale tells Hester to think only about her sin and God's mercy on him. He may be suggesting that if she does not acknowledge her sinfulness and express sorrow as he did, she may not go to heaven.
Wrap-Up

Objective: Responding to literature

Activity

One at a time, draw for the numbers of the topics listed below. Immediately after drawing the topic, deliver a three-minute speech on the subject. Be sure to elaborate on your thoughts with reasons and examples.

Topics for Extemporaneous Speeches

1. The character I would like to have as a friend is _______________.
2. The character I would avoid is _______________.
3. The character that most intrigues me is _______________.
4. The character I most admire is _______________.
5. The character I would least like to be is _______________.
6. The character I understand the best is _______________.
7. The most memorable image of the novel is _______________.
8. The most fantastic image of the novel is _______________.
9. The most confusing image of the novel is _______________.
10. The theme I most agree with is _______________.
11. The theme I most disagree with is _______________.
12. Having read this novel, I will become more aware of _______________.
13. I think Hester went to heaven because _______________.
14. I think Hester went to hell because _______________.
15. The novel demonstrates that self-reliance is _______________.
16. The novel demonstrates that women are _______________.
17. The moral concept I have learned about sin is _______________.
18. The moral that I have learned about guilt is _______________.
19. Having read this novel, I understand that single mothers _______________.
20. Having read this novel, I understand that gossip _______________.
21. It seems ironic that sin can _______________.
22. While reading the novel I was offended by _______________.
23. I think the novel is worth reading because _______________.
24. The setting of the novel was well-chosen because _______________.
25. To me the scarlet letter symbolizes _______________.
26. According to this novel, people should avoid _______________.
27. Dimmesdale’s effectiveness as a minister can be explained by _______________.
28. Pearl was too _______________.
29. If I could ask Hawthorne a question, I would want to know _______________.