

Vocabulary List

The Scarlet Letter is full of rich, complex vocabulary that you may not be particularly familiar with. Hawthorne's command of language and descriptive word choice makes The Scarlet Letter a classic American novel.

Directions: Use a dictionary or the author's words to find the meanings of the following words from The Scarlet Letter. Your teacher will direct you to do this lesson either as you read each chapter, or as a pre-reading activity. Whatever method your teacher chooses, be sure to keep this list and your definitions to use in vocabulary exercises and to study for quizzes and tests.

Chapters 1-3

1. beadle
2. contumely
3. ignominy
4. inauspicious
5. mien
6. physiognomies
7. pillory
8. remonstrance
9. sagacity
10. vie

Chapters 10-12

1. demerits
2. ethereal
3. expiation
4. inextricable
5. inimical
6. ominous
7. portent
8. scurrilous
9. somnambulism
10. zenith

Chapters 19-21

1. depredation
2. disquietude
3. jocularity
4. languor
5. obeisance
6. potentate
7. prattle
8. preternatural
9. uncouth
10. vicissitude

Chapters 4-6

1. anathemas
2. draught
3. efficacy
4. expostulation
5. gesticulation
6. paramour
7. phantasmagoric
8. quaff
9. sable
10. uncongenial

Chapters 13-15

1. asperity
2. austerity
3. despotic
4. effluence
5. enigma
6. gibe
7. innate
8. petulant
9. proffered
10. requital

Chapters 22-24

1. apotheosize
2. audacity
3. contiguous
4. erratic
5. gait
6. indefatigable
7. morion
8. necromancy
9. pathos
10. repugnance

Chapters 7-9

1. cabalistic
2. surgical
3. contagion
4. deportment
5. despondent
6. emaciated
7. erudition
8. imperious
9. leech
10. pestilence

Chapters 16-18

1. colloquy
2. consecration
3. denizen
4. dryad
5. harrowed
6. hillock
7. loquacity
8. meditative
9. transmuted
10. vestige