

In-Class Essay #3 Topic Sheet

For this essay, you will write a "critical essay" on one of the topics below. During the in-class essay, you will be able to look at our text. Also, in preparation I strongly recommend that you prepare an outline/note sheet to use as you write. This note sheet can include the main structure of your essay and reference to any quotes you will use for support, but it should not be "draft-like" (that is have full sentences and paragraphs already written). You should prepare the plan for your essay, but we will actually write it during the in-class essay.

Choose one of these topics:

(We will determine these during class)

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1. What does the story seem to communicate allegorically about the relationship between humanity and Faith? (Faith here meaning the Christian Faith, and more particularly the Faith of the characters in this story—the Puritan's Christian Faith)
 2. What is the symbolism of the character of Faith?
 3. What does the dark forest symbolize/serpent staff/pink ribbon in relation to the theme?
 4. How do Goodman Brown's thoughts and beliefs change in the story?
 5. How does GB reflect his social and religious environment?
 6. How is the theme of the story expressed in the conflict within GB's character?
 7. What is a central theme of GB?
 8. How does the imagery of the story communicate the central theme?
 9. What does the story communicate about the belief in original sin?
 10. Is the story more about humanity in general, or the Puritans (Goodman Brown's perspective) in particular?
 11. What does the story communicate about innocence and evil?
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The essay that you write during the in-class essay should follow the characteristics of a "critical essay," and in making your case you should use quotes from the short story. This story is the *only* sources I want you to use for this essay.

Essential skills and strategies you will need to employ for this final

- formulating a thesis to write on
- structuring an essay and its support/development
- critically reading for a purpose
- create clear signposts for your argument and ideas
- integrating quotes from primary and secondary sources; using quotes for support and meaning
- MLA Format and Documentation