

In-Class Essay #3 Topic Sheet (9:25 Class)

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. How does the symbolic meaning of the wood (darkness/staff/pink ribbon) relate to the theme of the story?
 3. Does the character of Goodman Brown lose touch with reality or gain a true sight of reality?
 4. How do the internal conflicts within the character of Goodman Brown reveal the theme of the story?
 5. How is the theme of the story told through the conflicts of the main character?
 6. What is the theme of "Young Goodman Brown?"
 7. What does Hawthorne communicate about the theme of religion in YGB?
 8. What is the true point of view in the story?
 9. What is the metaphoric reading of the story?
--is Goodman Brown representative of church and Faith as religious "faith?"
 10. What are the symbolic meanings of Goodman Brown and Faith?
 11. How does the imagery in the story give the story a mood of evil and forboding?
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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