

Name _____

Hester Prynne's Arrival and the Scarlet Letter: Chapters 1-4

Short Answer

1. Describe the scene in the market-place when Hester endures public humiliation. How does she react to the judgment of the townspeople?
2. What is Hester Prynne's marital history, and how does it relate to her current situation?
3. Explain the role of Roger Chillingworth in the novel and his motives for coming to the settlement.
4. Discuss the symbolism of the scarlet letter "A" and the scaffold in the early chapters of the novel.
5. How does Hester's silence about the identity of Pearl's father affect the townspeople's perception of her?

