Students registered for English 3 Honors are to read *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. At the start of the school year, students will be assessed on the novel. As you read, you should take notes on major developments within the novel (character/pplot development, symbolic, and thematic). Specifically, consider the following while taking notes:

**Themes**
- The punishment imposed upon us by others may not be as destructive as the guilt we experience.
- Revenge destroys the victim and the seeker.
- Even well-intended deceptions and secrets can be destructive.
- Each person possesses the capacity for both good and evil.

**Symbols**
- The scarlet letter itself/ the letter A
- The forest
- The prison
- The absence and presence of light
- The rose
- The names of Pearl, Dimmesdale, Chillingworth
- The scaffold
- Sunlight
- Colors and absence of color

**Rhetorical Devices**
- Contrasts (i.e. Good/evil, dark/light, forest/town, color/absence of color, supernatural/reality, etc.)
- Description
- Word Choice (diction)
- Contradiction/ Irony
- Motif (hand over heart, The Black Man, the color red)