

***The Scarlet Letter* Vocabulary**

Chapters 6-8, Chapters 9-12

Chapter 6

1. dearth – n. too small a supply; great scarcity
2. anathema – n. a solemn curse by church authorities excommunicating some person from the church

Chapter 7

1. ludicrous – adj. causing derisive laughter; ridiculous
2. caprice – n. a sudden change of mind without reason; whim

Chapter 8

1. emaciate – v. make unnaturally thin; waste away
2. vehemence – n. strong feeling; forcefulness; violence

Chapter 9

1. vindicate – v. clear from suspicion or dishonor
2. decry – v. condemn; denounce

Chapter 10

1. waive – v. give up a right or claim
2. tenacious – adj. holding fast; stubborn; persistent

Chapter 11

1. odious – adj. very displeasing; hateful; offensive
2. malice – n. active ill will; wish to hurt or make suffer

Chapter 12

1. erudite – adj. scholarly; learned
2. impel – v. drive or force; cause; drive forward