The Scarlet Letter TEST

True/False (2 pts. each)
*Indicate whether the statement is true or false.*

____ 1. The main action of *The Scarlet Letter* takes place in Boston.
____ 2. The Puritans allowed citizens to worship as they please.
____ 3. Chillingworth escaped the Indian captivity by drugging his captors.
____ 4. No one but Dimmesdale sees the red “A” in the sky above the market place.
____ 5. Hester’s needlework is highly sought after in the town.
____ 6. Chillingworth secretly provides Hester with money to take care of Pearl.
____ 7. Chillingworth did not have any skill or experience in practicing medicine.
____ 8. Pearl is overjoyed when Hester removes the scarlet letter.
____ 10. The time span of *The Scarlet Letter* is three years.
____ 11. The Black Man represents the devil or one of his demons.
____ 12. Dimmesdale and Hester plan to run away and live in the wilderness among the Indians.
____ 13. Mistress Hibbins is also aware of Dimmesdale’s sin.
____ 14. Chillingworth leaves all of his estate (worldly possessions) to Pearl in his will.
____ 15. Hester and Pearl stays in Boston after Dimmesdale confesses his sin.

Multiple Choice (2 pts. each)
*Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

____ 16. According to *The Scarlet Letter*, new settlements must establish at the beginning of the colony a 
cemetery and
a. an orphanage  
b. a prison  
c. a place of execution  
d. a town hall
____ 17. According to ____________, the magistrates are too lenient in the punishment of Hester.
a. Chillingworth  
b. Dimmesdale  
c. one of the elderly women of the town  
d. Mistress Hibbins
____ 18. After their separation of two years, the first time Hester sees Chillingworth again is
a. when he visits her in jail  
b. she sees him in the market place crown around the scaffold  
c. when he goes to the balcony and shouts for her to reveal the father of her child  
d. they accidentally meet in the graveyard
____ 19. The three most important scenes in this novel take place
a. in the Governor’s house  
b. in the forest  
c. in the prison  
d. on the scaffold
20. The scarlet letter that Hester wears represents her sin, adultery. It is
   a. an alliteration     c. a symbol
   b. a metaphor         d. personification

21. Although Hester’s husband calls himself Chillingworth in Boston, his real last name is
   a. Dimmesdale        c. Prynne
   b. the Black man     d. Winthrop

22. The period in which the main action occurs in *The Scarlet Letter* is
   a. 1850-1857         c. 1642-1649
   b. 1942-1949         d. 1730-1739

23. The only punishment *NOT* given to Hester for the crime of adultery was
   a. standing on the scaffold     c. forced to wear a scarlet letter
   b. whipping                      d. time spent in jail

24. During Hester’s first meeting with Chillingworth, Hester
   a. blames him for staying away c. suggests that they resume their marriage
   b. begs his forgiveness        d. asks if he is going to harm her baby

25. What is the promise that Hester makes to Chillingworth?
   a. One day she will reveal her lover’s name.
   b. She will remain faithful from now on.
   c. She and Pearl will leave to save him from embarrassment.
   d. She will not reveal his identity to the people of Boston.

26. At the beginning of Chapter 7, the Governor’s House, Hester goes to the governor’s house to deliver
   a. a note with the name of Pearl’s father     c. the results of an election
   b. a pair of gloves                         d. alms for the poor

27. When they enter the governor’s home, Pearl becomes mesmerized by
   a. a suit of armor                          c. the adults
   b. the servant’s child                      d. her blue dress

28. Hester can keep Pearl if she agrees to
   a. not be in another scandal              c. allow Pearl to be educated about the *Bible*
   b. send Pearl to Sunday school            d. all of these

29. Hester supports herself and Pearl primarily through
   a. gathering nuts and food in the forest   c. doing whatever work she can get
   b. making medicine from wild herbs        d. sewing garments for the townspeople

30. The story suggests that the letter “A” is
   a. a sign of Hester’s crime              c. a source of anguish for Hester
   b. a symbol of pride for the women of the town
d. both A & C

31. Hester calls the child Pearl because the baby is
   a. is the calm, white luster of a pearl   c. is named after Hester’s mother
   b. was purchased at a great price        d. shines and brings peace to Hester

32. Pearl can best be described as
   a. a warm, loving child                  c. a wild child who follows no rules but her own
   b. a fun-loving, happy child            d. a very wise and model child
33. At the Governor’s Hall, Pearl tells Rev. Wilson that
   a. her father is dead
   b. she has no father
   c. God made her
   d. she wasn’t made, but plucked from a rose bush

34. In her forest meeting with Dimmesdale, Hester symbolizes her intention to begin a new life by
   a. dancing among the flowers with Dimmesdale
   b. throwing away her scarlet letter
   c. dressing Pearl in scarlet
   d. hugging and kissing Pearl and Dimmesdale

35. The change in the public attitude toward Hester causes their interpretation of the letter “A” to be
   a. Arthur
   b. able
   c. angel
   d. adultery

36. The attitude of the people toward Hester changes because
   a. she reveals the name of her partner in sin
   b. she helps others in their time of need
   c. they discover another adulterer
   d. they are charmed by Pearl

37. Hester meets Dimmesdale in the forest to
   a. beg him to reveal his sin publicly
   b. to reveal the true identity of Chillingworth
   c. give Pearl a chance to know her father
   d. beg him to raise Pearl

38. Pearl torments Hester in the forest by saying that ________ does not love her.
   a. the sunshine
   b. herself (Pearl)
   c. God
   d. the reverend

39. When Hester reveals the true identity of Chillingworth, Dimmesdale says
   a. he will immediately run away
   b. he can never forgive her
   c. he wants to kill Chillingworth
   d. she is the source of his greatest misery

40. What does Pearl continue to ask, which annoys Hester
   a. “Why do you wear the “A” mother?”
   b. “Who is my father?”
   c. “Who is the Black Man?”
   d. “Who is Chillingworth?”

41. Before he sails to England with Hester, Dimmesdale decides he must
   a. win Pearl’s love
   b. make amends to Hester
   c. confess his sin publicly
   d. deliver his last Election sermon

42. The news that the sea captain gives Hester that shocks her is that
   a. Dimmesdale canceled his ticket
   b. he cannot take them unless he gets more money
   c. Chillingworth will also be sailing with them
   d. the ship cannot sail for a month

43. When Hester sees Dimmesdale in the Election Day procession, she feels
   a. happy because he is happy
   b. sad because he is ill and weak
   c. sad because he is remote and detached
   d. relief because he acknowledges

44. While running around the market place during the procession, Pearl is given a message from
   ________ to take to her mother.
   a. Dimmesdale
   b. Mistress Hibbins
   c. Chillingworth
   d. the sea captain
45. As Dimmesdale walks to the scaffold to make what turns out to be his confession, who says to him: “Madman, hold! What is your purpose? All shall be well. Don not blacken your fame and perish your honor. I can yet save you! Would you bring infamy on your sacred profession?”
   a. Rev. Wilson  
   b. Chillingworth  
   c. Hester  
   d. Pearl

46. What act breaks the spell on Pearl and makes her capable of joy?
   a. kissing the cheek of her dying father  
   b. taking the minister’s hand in public  
   c. hugging her mother and sharing sorrow  
   d. all of the above

47. Until his confession, the only people besides Dimmesdale and Hester who know of their sin is
   a. Wilson  
   b. Gov. Bellingham  
   c. his landlady  
   d. Mistress Hibbins

48. During the course of the novel, Hester removes the scarlet letter from her dress
   a. only once  
   b. never  
   c. only on holidays  
   d. only in church

49. After Dimmesdale’s death, Chillingworth
   a. goes back to England  
   b. loses the energy and will to live  
   c. is finally able to forgive the minister  
   d. becomes a doctor in the Indian wilderness

50. As Dimmesdale stands upon the scaffold ad confesses his sin to the people, he also reveals
   a. that Chillingworth is the Black Man  
   b. that Hester is with child again  
   c. their plans to leave Boston  
   d. the burning symbol on his chest