

## **CHAPTER 22 “THE PROCESSION”**

1. What piece of unwelcome news does the master of the ship on which, she, Pearl , and Dimmesdale are to sail have for Hester?
2. What is particularly noticeable about Dimmesdale’s manner as he walks in the procession?
3. Where does Hester stand during the procession and during Dimmesdale’s sermon in the church?

## **CHAPTER 23 “THE REVELATION OF THE SCARLET LETTER” &**

### **QUESTIONS**

1. How does Dimmesdale appear as he leaves the church after his triumphant sermon?
2. How does Pearl react when Dimmesdale calls Hester and herself to mount the scaffold with him?
3. Where, according to Chillingworth is the one place where Dimmesdale could have successfully escaped him?
4. What were some of the conjectures made by parishioners as to the origin of the minister’s scarlet letter?
5. What explanation for the events of Election Day is made by the minister’s friends to make him seem blameless?
6. Dimmesdale enters the church energetically and upright to give his sermon; he leaves it stooped and tottering. How would you account for each of these quite different ways he carried himself? What might we assume has happened to him during the course of the sermon?
7. Explain why Chillingworth desperately tries to stop Dimmesdale from confessing his sins on the scaffold?
8. What do you think Dimmesdale means when he describes his and Hester’s sin as violating “our reverence for each other’s soul”?

## **CHAPTER 24 “CONCLUSION”**

1. Does Hester ever speak in chapter 24?
2. Where has Pearl gone?
3. What does Hester spend her time doing? What is her general message to other women?
4. Where is Dimmesdale buried? Where is Hester? What is peculiar about their positions?
5. What is the paradox of the final image? What is peculiar about the tombstone?