



The Scarlet Letter

Punishment, Guilt, and Shame

Use this Venn diagram to explore the themes of *punishment*, *guilt*, and *shame* and how they intersect. First, decide if any of these phrases belong in the diagram and, if so, where. Then add more phrases to the diagram based on your reading of *The Scarlet Letter*. Finally, share your diagram with a partner or small group to compare and contrast. Then talk about whether the word *sin* belongs in the middle of the diagram. If not, what word might be better?

Based on your discussion, write your own definitions of *punishment*, *guilt*, and *shame*, explaining the differences among them.

a penalty for wrongdoing

the prison

a feeling of deserving blame

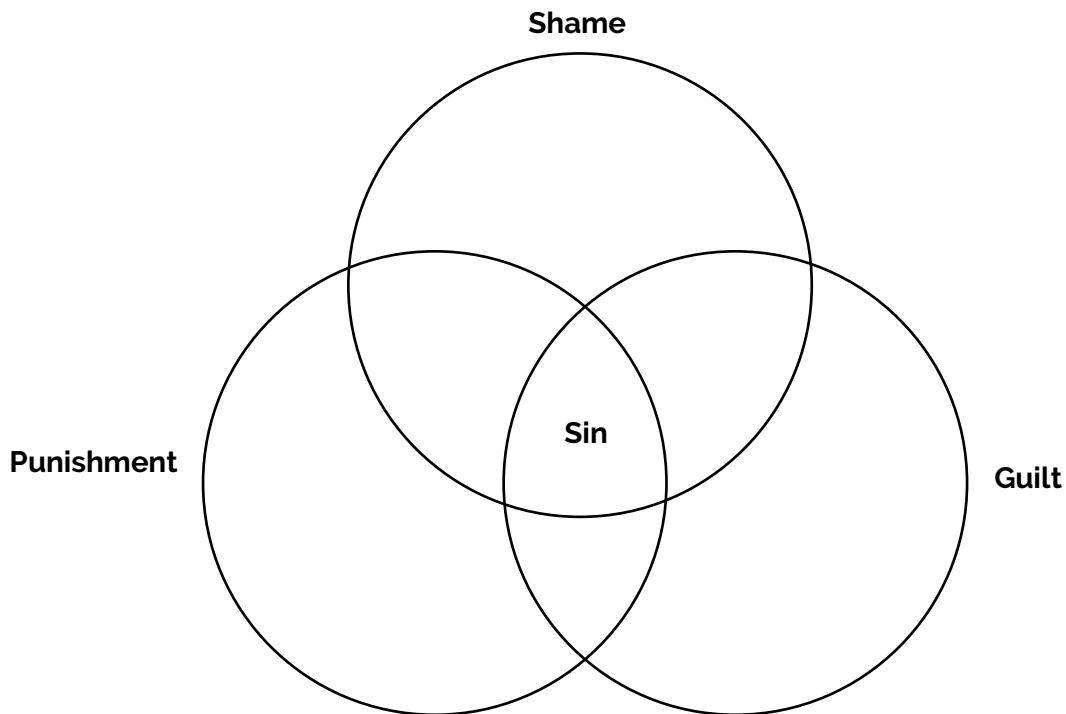
the market-place

a painful emotion

the dark forest

the scarlet A

hidden secrets



RL.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

SL.11-12.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.