

VOCABULARY- English 3, Semester 1, Unit 1

agenda	a motive for doing something; a list of priority actions
alienation	separation between a person and an object or place of devotion or attachment; withdrawal of affection by a person who was once loved
antagonist	a fictional character who creates problems for others and advances the conflict of the story
archaic	popular or used in the past, but no longer in widespread use
argument	the main idea presented in support of a claim in an essay
audience	the intended readers of your essay
authenticity	the genuineness or legitimacy of something
body politic	the people of a community, nation, or other organized entity
captivity narrative	a personal and historical account of capture and captivity told in retrospect
captivity narrative	personal account of captivity
claim	the main assertion in your essay that supports the argument
connotation	a cultural or emotional association applied to a word
context	the setting that surrounds an event or idea; in vocabulary, the sentences surrounding a word
controversial	referring to something causing people to have opposing views
convention	a way of thinking or behaving that is widely used or accepted among a particular group of people
couplet	two lines of a poem or verse that express an idea, often having the same meter and rhyme
diction	word choice and its influence on a writer's style or intent
dilemma	a challenging situation or problem

disparity	a significant difference or inequality between people, groups of people, things, or ideas
empowerment	the possession of granted or authorized power
ethnocentrism	the belief that the group to which an individual belongs is superior to other groups
evidence	something proven; proof of a claim or position one takes on an issue
excommunication	the state of being banned or shut off from the church
explicit meaning	the meaning of a word fully revealed without any vagueness or ambiguity
feminist literature	any work of fiction, drama, or poetry that portrays women characters with free will who seek out gender equality and experience all human emotions
Great Awakening	a religious revitalization movement that swept colonial New England in the 1730s and 1740s, characterized by a deep sense of spiritual commitment and a personal connection with God
habitation	a place to live
heathen	a person or group not devoted to God and teachings of the Bible; non-Christian considered to be uncivilized
heresy	an opinion or doctrine contrary to church dogma
homage	a tribute intended to honor a person whose contribution to the world has had a significant and positive influence
hysteria	uncontrolled emotional outbursts
imagery	figurative language such as metaphors and similes used to create a mental picture of an abstract idea
implied meaning	the meaning of a word understood, though unexpressed, usually through connotations and imagery
indentured	referring to a state of debt bondage, in which a person is given passage to a new location, clothing, food, lodging, and job-training, in return for which the person works as a servant without pay for a certain number of years, after which the person goes free
inference	a conclusion or opinion formed from known facts or evidence
interpretation	a particular or individual understanding of information or events

intolerance	inability or unwillingness to tolerate another person's opinions, beliefs, religion, or cultural behavior
inviolable	safe from being changed or violated; often a synonym for sacred
invocation	the summoning of a divine being or the supernatural
irony	a literary device in which what appears to be true is different from what is really true
literary criticism	the study, evaluation, and interpretation of literary works
mass hysteria	an outbreak of fear or agitation within a large group of people
McCarthyism	unfairly accusing others of crimes or, in particular, alliance with communism
meter	the pattern of rhythm in a poem or verse
misperceived	misunderstood
narrative	type of writing that recounts important events in the order in which they happened
paradox	a contradictory statement or set of ideals
paranoia	a psychological disorder resulting in fear, hysteria, and strange behavior
persecution	to punish or drive away someone because of their religious, ethnic, or customary belief system
personification	the giving of an animal, thing, or abstract idea characteristics of a human being
perspective	an individual's interpretation of information based on a personal understanding of the facts
poetic devices	parts of a poem that include word choice, imagery, figurative language, tone, sound, and rhythm all used to convey the meaning of the poem
point of view	the author's position in relation to the story being told
predestination	the belief that God has already decided one's fate in advance and that humans can do nothing to change their fate
propaganda	rumors deliberately made to spread fear and anxiety
protagonist	the central character of a story
Protestantism	the body of doctrine that protests against the universal authority of the Pope and which affirms justification by faith alone, the priesthood of all believers, and the primacy of the Bible as the only source of revealed truth

providence	a belief in God as the divine guide of human destiny
Puritan doctrine	the idea that those who have faith in Christ, adhering to the teachings of the Bible, will receive God's grace
Puritan literature	poetry and prose based on Bible references and the glorification of God, intended to educate others regarding who will be "saved" by the one God and to create one well-educated Puritan culture in the New World
Puritan plain style	a direct style of writing that uses simple sentences and everyday language
Puritan religion	theology and beliefs practiced by Protestants who broke from the Church of England to follow the Calvinist doctrine to "purify" the church and interpret the literal understanding of the Bible
Puritans	Christians who wanted to purify the Church of England
purpose	the main reason for writing your essay, such as explaining, describing, or persuading
reasoning	the process of forming conclusions from the evidence presented in an essay
redemption	deliverance; rescue; atonement for guilt; in theology, bought back from sin
remove	residence or location that is frequently changed
rhetorical features	the choice of words, phrases, and other textual features that contribute to the style of writing and reinforce meaning
rhetorical style	methods of organizing and presenting thoughts in writing
satire	a device in a literary work intended to scorn or ridicule immoral and foolish human behavior by using description or dialog that keenly articulates ironic humor
scapegoating	blaming another person for something that was out of his or her control
Separatists	Christians who separated from the Church of England because they believed it was corrupt
sequence	things or events that follow a specific order
setting	the place where a story begins; the environment and surroundings of a particular action scene
slave narrative	a literary form in which slaves wrote true accounts about their experiences
structure	how the words of a poem are arranged, pertaining to a specific literary genre; the organization of the stanzas, which relies upon meter and rhythm and which develops patterns for emphasis in meaning

symbolism	the use of something, such as an object, name, or color that stands for another idea, quality, or thing
theme	the subject of the poem; the topic the poet wants to present, more than one of which may be present to convey the full meaning of the poem
theocracy	a strictly enforced system of government in which rules are set forth by a religious body such as priests
thesis	the main topic of an essay; a strongly written statement that presents the premise of an essay
tone	the poet's expression of mood and emotion, demonstrated through word choice; the poet's attitude toward the subject of the poem
tone	the attitude an author takes toward his or her subject or audience
unorthodox	not conforming to accepted practices or beliefs, especially in religion
usage	how something is used; in grammar, how words are used