Context:

* Hester felt bad for Dimmesdale being tortured, so she asks Chillingworth to tell secret.
* Chillingworth blames his revenge driven action on sin Hester have committed.
* Hester first submits but then realizes how much she hates Chillingworth

Summary:

* Start with Hester reflecting her relationship with Chillingworth,how she never loved him
* Move to describing how Pearl have been playing with unnecessary amount of detail
* Stared into lake, played with animals, used plants to decorate herself

After:

* Hester realizes that Dimmesdale is troubled by guilt and tell him truth

Characterize Hester

* Not sinful, contrarily to what the society and readers thought
  + Speaks to no-one about betrayal -> shows sudden realization
    - Never liked Chillingworth, forced to marry him
    - Concealed personal judgment all released cause loose calmness
    - Shifted from criminal to victim
    - Crooked figure (diction) -> suggest Chillingworth is criminal
  + Motif of reflection -> truth revealing such as Hester armor scene
    - Pearl is symbol of Hester’s sin, reflection connect with sky
    - Sky is pure, show Hester’s sin is not evil
  + Pearl playing with animal, not realize she hurt them, stop when realize (Imagery)
    - Hester did not commit sin intentionally, shows her good nature
* Independent from social ideology
  + - Does not want to be forced to do things -> independence
    - Reflect on her marriage, and shows regret -> independence
    - Different from society’s lack of recognition of woman’s marriage right
  + Hester makes a green version of the letter and puts her head it
    - Flashback to when Hester put Pearl’s head in her bosom
    - Used to be of embarrassment, but now justified her sin, and now proudly
    - Red to green show sinful nature of symbol clear off

Lack of precision on judgment in puritan society

* Hester have been blamed for her sin, and she have 3 different stages of response
  + 1, protesting against -> does not think she is sinful
  + 2, submissive -> society punishment created confusion, Hester doubt her sin
  + 3, active again -> after realizing she is not sinned -> plan escape
  + Shows that Hester is good intentioned -> submissive in middle because fear that she really is sinful even though she does not think she have done anything wrong
  + Punished for sinful nature, but sin originated from Chillingworth forcing marriage

Difficulty in escaping puritan society’s judgmental nature

* Ground and sky in pearl reflection is impalpable and unattainable
  + Represent a better environment, better environment for Hester’s sin is no judgment, but diction suggest impossible to achieve
* Pearl sent boats free, but a lot foundered near shore
  + Boats were searching for freedom and new possibility, like England merchants, but failure rate suggest high difficulty