"The Minister's Black Veil" Discussion Questions

Directions: Each Question is accompanied with the number of sentences I want in your answer. Write your answers on your own paper. This will be a quiz grade!

1. Recall a time when someone close to you changed in a way that made him or her seem like a different person. Explain why it made you see the person so differently. (2 Sentences)

2. Reread lines 1-9. What details reveal the importance of Sunday worship for the people of Milford? (Textual Evidence, 2 sentences)

3. In lines 34-39, how do the comments in this passage show that people already feel some estrangement about their minister? (Textual Evidence, 1 Sentence)

4. Reread lines 92-100. Identify details that convey Mr. Hooper’s social status in Milford. What does the change in the villager’s behavior toward the minister suggest about their values? (Textual Evidence, 2 Sentences)

5. In lines 105-114, what does the conversation between husband and wife reveal about the villagers’ estrangement from their pastor? (1 Sentence)

6. Write the following words and their definitions on your paper. Then, use each in a sentence to convey the meaning. Page 475:
   a) imbued
   b) portend

7. Reread lines 133-138. In this context, what could Mr. Hooper mean when he refers to "the dreadful hour that should snatch the veil from their faces"? (1 Sentence)

8. Write the following word on your paper, along with the definition. Page 476: tremulous
   Now, use the word in a sentence that conveys its meaning.

9. Reread lines 175-199 to examine the relationship between Mr. Hooper and the people of Milford. Answer the following questions:
   a) Thus far, what has been the general reaction to Mr. Hooper's altered appearance? (1 Sentence)
   b) Why is it significant that "the busybodies and impertinent people in the parish" (lines 175-176) do not ask Mr. Hooper why he wears the veil? (1 Sentence)

10. Reread lines 200-210. Contrast the response of the minister’s fiancee to the veil with the responses of the other villagers. What might explain the difference in her response? (Textual Evidence, 1 sentence)

11. Reread lines 243-266 and answer the following questions. This passage, a narrative turning point, magnifies story conflicts.
   a) When does Mr. Hooper realize that Elizabeth now fears him too? (1 Sentence)
   b) What does Mr. Hooper ask of Elizabeth? What does she ask of him? (2 Sentences)
   c) How does he feel behind the veil? (1 Sentence)
   d) Why does Elizabeth leave? According to the narrator, why is her departure important? (2 Sentences)

12. Record the following word, along with its definition, on your paper. Then, use it in a sentence to convey its meaning. Page 479: preternatural

13. Reread lines 350-362 and answer the following questions.
   a) Who speaks with the dying Mr. Hooper in this section? (1 Sentence)
   b) What does Mr. Hooper tell him? To what "veil" is he referring? (2 Sentences)
   c) What reasons does Mr. Clark give Mr. Hooper for lifting the veil off his face? (1 Sentence)

14. Reread lines 382-393 and complete the following questions. This concluding passage suggests a meaning for the veil and presents the narrator’s final commentary about it.
   a) What does Mr. Hooper say that people must do before they can call him a "monster"? (1 Sentence)
   b) What does he say that they hide? What does he say that they wear? (2 Sentences)
   c) What final image does the narrator present? How does he feel about that image? (2 Sentences)