**CSQT Strategy**

The CSQT strategy is a helpful way to respond to short answer questions. It will also improve your ability to incorporate quotations into your essays. Each CSQT answer consists of four parts:

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| **C = Claim** | The first sentence of your answer makes an argument. |
| **S = Set-up** | The second sentence of your answer connects your claim to the quotation you will use as evidence. |
| **Q = Quotation** | The third sentence of your answer includes the quotation that supports your claim. |
| **T = Tie-in** | The fourth and final sentence of your answer explains how the quotation you have provided proves the claim you made in the first sentence. |

**Sample CSQT Question and Response**

Question: What kind of people lived in Boston with Hester Prynne?

C = claim Hester Prynne lived in Boston in the mid-1600s among first and second generation Puritans. S = set-up Early Puritans equated religious law with civil law and demanded conformity. Q = quote These traits are evident in the opening scene of *The Scarlet Letter* when Hawthorne describes the men that determined Hester’s punishment as “distinguished by a dignity of mein, belonging to a period when the forms of authority were felt to possess the sacredness of Divine institutions” (57). T = tie-in The dignified, judgmental men in her society believed their authority came from God and thought nothing of giving young Hester harsh punishments for her sin.