

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 1

Directions: Read each summary entry and think about which themes listed in the Themes Key apply to it, then color in those themes in the Theme Tracker. Next, write a few sentences of Analysis to explain how the themes you chose apply to each summary section.

Themes Key

1	Gender Roles
2	Religion and Theocracy
3	Fertility
4	Rebellion
5	Love
6	Storytelling and Memory

Summary	Theme Tracker						Your Analysis
The novel begins with the first-person narrator, Offred , describing the old gymnasium where she has been sleeping, and the sense of longing and loss in the atmosphere. The room feels layered with long-gone emotions of high school dances and romance. She and other women sleep on army-issue cots while Aunt Sara and Aunt Elizabeth keep watch, carrying cattle prods.	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Aunt Sara and Aunt Elizabeth aren't allowed to have guns, the narrator explains. The guards outside, specialty members of a group called the Angels, have guns, but they aren't allowed to enter, just as the women aren't allowed to exit except for two walks per day.	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Offred , like the other women,	1	2	3	4	5	6	

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wishes that she could speak to the guards, longing for some “deal” with them that she could make with her body.							
Though Offred and the other women aren’t allowed to speak to each other, they manage to draw each other’s attention and quietly whisper at night, when the Aunts aren’t looking. They tell each other their names, including Janine and Moira .	1	2	3	4	5	6	