

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 18 **Sample Answers**

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.

Note: There is not always a definitive set of “correct” answers for which themes should appear in the Theme Tracker. Answers that differ from the ones we propose below should therefore not automatically be treated as incorrect, and in fact can serve as great discussion starters.

Themes Key

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

Summary	Theme Tracker						Your Analysis
Offred lies in bed, disturbed and aroused by her encounter with Nick . She remembers spending time with Luke when she was pregnant. She feels too dead to masturbate.	1	2	3	4	5	6	Offred prefers to remember than to take action, even when she's by herself.
Offred believes in several different fates for Luke . First she imagines Luke as a corpse lying in the forest, and hopes he had a quick death from a bullet. Then she imagines him alive in prison, worn down and old-looking, with a gash as red as tulips on his face. Finally she imagines him safely over the border,	1	2	3	4	5	6	Though Offred has previously said that she prefers not to hope (for example, in Chapter 12, when she thinks about her daughter), this passage shows her being both hopeful and maybe willfully blind. She misses out on one big possibility—maybe Luke is now working for Gilead. But Offred would

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making contact with a Resistance movement. She imagines that Luke might find a way to send her a message and rescue her and their daughter . Offred keeps believes in all three possibilities for Luke at once, or else she feels that she can't believe in anything.							prefer to idealize Luke, and maintain her love for him as a form of escapism.
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