**Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 26**

**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 |

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| **Summary** | **Theme Tracker** | | | | | | **Your Analysis** |
| **Offred** found the next Ceremony awkward in a new way. Before, she and probably the **Commander** too both managed to drift absent-mindedly through it, but now Offred felt, for the first time, self-conscious and shy about her body. Offred’s feelings towards Serena Joy changed too, moving from pure hatred to jealousy and even guilt. Offred enjoyed her small power over Serena Joy, but knew that if Serena Joy found out, or if the Commander were slightly careless, she would be horribly punished. At one point during the Ceremony the Commander seemed to want to touch Offred’s face, and later she warned him to be careful, teasing him a little. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |  |
| **Offred** remembers **Aunt Lydia** talking about future generations, when the population will rebound and there will be enough Handmaids to stay in each household and live like a family. Aunt Lydia says that it’s freer when women work together to run the home, and that in the future each Handmaid might have her own garden. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |  |
| **Offred** feels that she’s become a traditional-type mistress to the **Commander**. She thinks that maybe **Serena Joy** even knows about it and lets it happen to take away some of the burden of being the wife. Offred is happier than before, now that she’s interested in the Commander and that he sees her as a person. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |  |