

# REMOTE LEARNING BOOKLET

Year 9

Topic – The Yellow Wallpaper

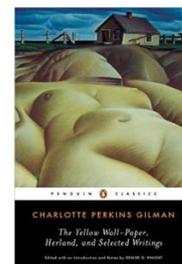
*In the event of school closure, work through the activities in this timetable for **60 minutes** during each timetabled slot for English. If you are unsure how to complete an activity look through your revision guide, access the Power Points on Google classroom or email your teacher who will do their best to assist you. You are expected to evidence your learning and the activities you have completed in your exercise book.*

# Close Reading Organizer – Activity 1

**Directions:** Read each summary entry and think about which themes listed in the Themes Key apply to it, then colour 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 Mental Illness and its Treatment
- 2 Gender Roles and Domestic Life
- 3 Outward Appearance vs. Inner Life
- 4 Self-Expression, Miscommunication, and Misunderstanding



Summary	Theme Tracker				Your Analysis
	1	2	3	4	
<p><b>The narrator</b> begins with a description of the impressive summer home she has just moved into with her husband <b>John</b>. She is amazed that two 'mere ordinary people' could have secured such a place. She jokingly wonders whether the home might be haunted, since it was so cheap to rent. Her husband laughs at her suspicion, but, as she writes, 'one expects that in marriage.'</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>Hints that there is something strange about the house create the first sense of disconnect between its outward appearance, as a beautiful home, and its inner (perhaps sinister) life. John's laughter, and the narrator's sarcastic response, reveal the strained dynamic of their marriage and the fact that these dynamics are built into marriage—that marriage as it exists in the society of the time of the story involved such strains and power disparities.</p>
<p><b>The narrator</b> goes on to describe her eminently practical husband <b>John</b>, who is a physician, and his dismissal of her worries about depression—she believes she is sick, while he thinks she has 'a slight hysterical tendency' and nothing more. She explains the cure he has prescribed her, which forbids any writing or intellectual work until she feels better. Although she disagrees with this lack of activity, she feels powerless to object.</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>John embodies a typically male view of the world .....</p>
<p><b>The narrator</b> describes the house in more detail, which is grand but seems semi-abandoned and a bit 'strange.' She doesn't like the room they have chosen to live in, but <b>John</b> insisted they take the nursery at the top of the house so that she</p>	1	2	3	4	

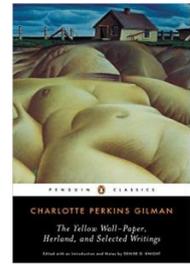
<p>could absorb the restorative air. Her whole life is scheduled by John, who is very 'careful and loving' so that she feels 'basely ungrateful not to value it more.'</p>					
<p><b>The narrator</b> thinks the large, airy room at the top of the house must have been a nursery, since its paper is stripped off in great patches and there are bars on the window to prevent children from falling. She objects only to the room's <b>yellow wallpaper</b>, which she finds irritating, repellent, and full of contradictions and outrageous angles.</p>	1	2	3	4	
<p>As <b>John</b> approaches, <b>the narrator</b> hides <b>the diary</b> where she is writing this note.</p>	1	2	3	4	

# Close Reading Organizer – Activity 2

**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.

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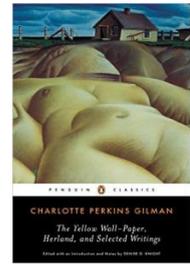
Summary	Theme Tracker				Your Analysis
	1	2	3	4	
<p><b>The narrator</b> feels almost too weak to write, but she needs to express herself in some way to find relief. She has lost strength, and <b>John</b> administers a whole range of treatments. She tries to convince him to let her leave the house and visit her cousins, but cries and cannot finish.</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>The diary is the narrator's only remaining outlet for self-expression. John's treatments ignore her true sickness. Her failure to convince him to leave shows their inability to communicate, as she is trapped by her husband's authority.</p>
<p><b>John</b> carries her gently upstairs in his arms and reads to her until she is too tired. He tells her she must use her self control and not allow her silly fancies to take over, since he loves her too dearly to see her unwell.</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>Here, John is a sympathetic.....</p>
<p><b>The narrator</b> finds one positive side to living in the nursery: it means that her baby is not exposed to the horrible wallpaper, and can be happy and well. She has stopped mentioning the wallpaper to her husband and <b>Jennie</b>, but she watches it more and more closely. She can make out the dim figure behind the pattern more clearly now: it is the repeated shape of a woman, stooping down and creeping around. She wishes <b>John</b> would take her away from the house.</p>	1	2	3	4	

# Close Reading Organizer – Activity 3

**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.

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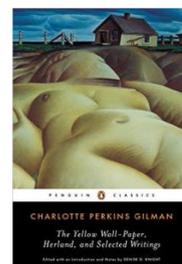
Summary	Theme Tracker				Your Analysis
<p>This is the last day of their time in the house, and <b>the narrator</b> arranges to be alone in the room overnight. As soon as the moon appears, she begins her attempt to free <b>the mysterious figure</b>, peeling yards of <b>the wallpaper</b> away in a strip around the room. When <b>Jennie</b> sees it the next morning, the narrator tells her 'merrily' that she did it out of pure spite, and Jennie laughs and warns her not to get tired.</p>	1	2	3	4	

<p><b>The narrator</b> is obsessed, driven to finish the task of removing the wallpaper. She refuses to leave the room, even as everything but the gnawed bedstead is being moved out of it, and when she is alone again she locks the door, throws the key onto the front path, and gets to work removing the paper.</p>	1	2	3	4	
<p><b>The narrator</b> cannot reach the tops of the walls, and after trying in vain to move the heavy bedstead so that she can reach, she bites at one corner in frustration. She tears off whatever she can reach, and <b>the wallpaper</b> seems to shriek with laughter at her attempts. She writes that she is angry enough to jump out the window, but the bars are too strong- and besides, 'a step like that is improper and would be misconstrued.'</p>	1	2	3	4	
<p>Here, the perspective shifts. <b>The narrator</b> begins to speak as though she were <b>the mysterious woman</b> behind <b>the wallpaper</b>, just escaped. She can creep around in the room as much as she pleases, and doesn't want to go back inside the wallpaper or outside in the garden. She can creep along the wall on the floor, so that her shoulder fits smoothly into the long 'smooch' on the wall.</p>	1	2	3	4	
<p><b>John</b> arrives at the door, calling for an axe to break it down. <b>The narrator</b> tells him that the key is outside under a plantain leaf, repeating it over and over until he opens the door. When he enters, she says that she has 'got out at last' in spite of him 'and Jane,' and will not be put back. He faints at the sight of her creeping along the wall, and she continues to creep in a circle around the room, forced to go over his prone body with each turn.</p>	1	2	3	4	

# Key Quotes Analysis – Activity 4

**Directions:** Read each quote below and identify its speaker and the character(s) who relate to it. Then, circle the theme(s) listed in the Themes Key that apply to each quote. Some quotes may lack a direct speaker (such as if the quote is an unnamed narrator) or have no related characters. In those cases it is fine to leave the “Speaker” or “Related character(s)” fields blank.

The first one has been done for you. There may be more than one theme.



## Themes Key

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It is very seldom that mere ordinary people like John and myself secure ancestral halls for the summer. A colonial mansion, a hereditary estate, I would say a haunted house, and reach the height of romantic felicity—but that would be asking too much of fate! Still I will proudly declare that there is something queer about it.	Speakers: <b>The Narrator</b>
	Related character(s): <b>John</b>
	Related Themes: 1      2 <b>3</b> 4

John laughs at me, of course, but one expects that in marriage.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1      2      3      4

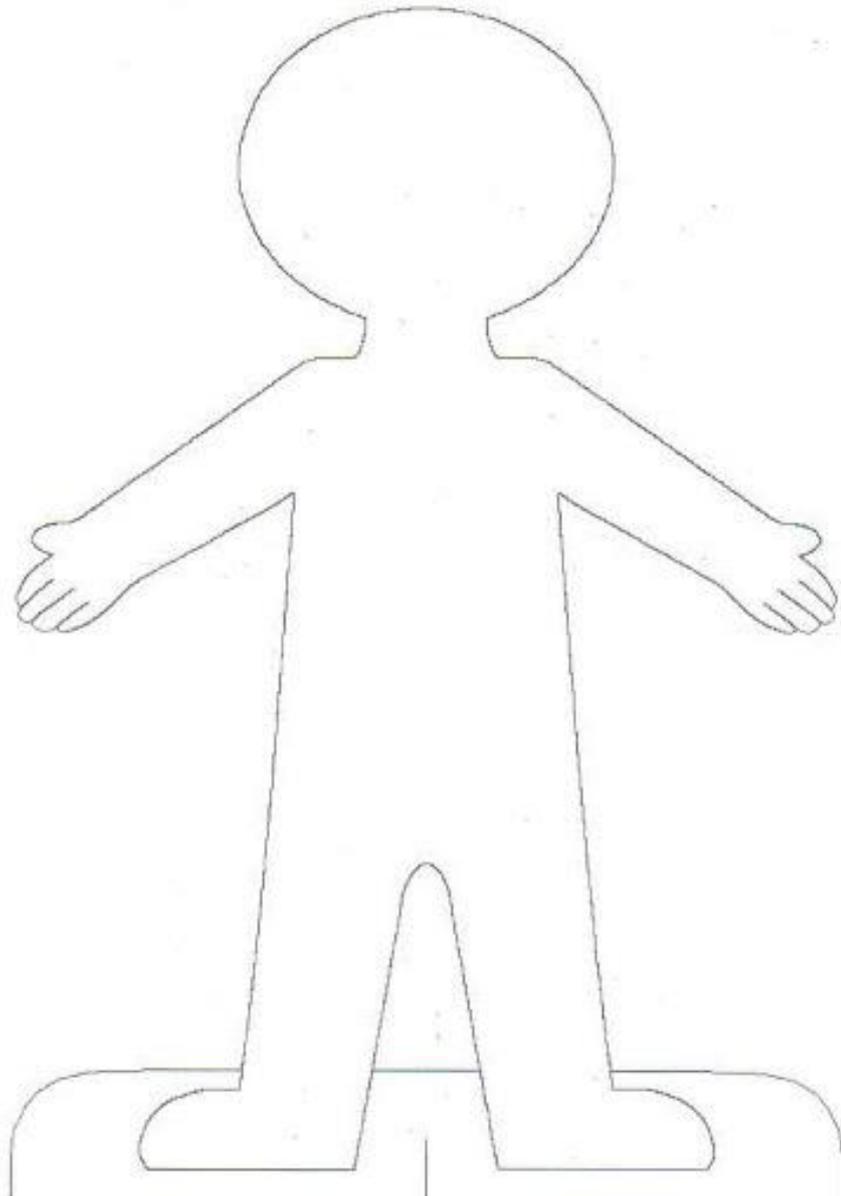
John is a physician, and PERHAPS—I would not say it to a living soul, of course, but this is dead paper and a great relief to my mind)—PERHAPS that is one reason I do not get well faster. You see he does not believe I am sick! And what can one do?	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1      2      3      4

He is very careful and loving, and hardly lets me stir without special direction. I have a schedule prescription for each hour in the day; he takes all care from me, and so I feel basely ungrateful not to value it more. He said we came here solely on my account, that I was to have perfect rest and all the air I could get.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1      2      3      4

The paint and paper look as if a boys' school had used it. It is stripped off—the paper—in great patches all around the head of my bed, about as far as I can reach, and in a great place on the other side of the room low down. I never saw a worse paper in my life.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1            2            3            4

## Activity 5

Choose a character from *The Yellow Wallpaper*. Label the diagram with external and internal forces that characterise that person in the story.



Label external forces on the character you have chosen.

For example thoughts on treatment of mental.

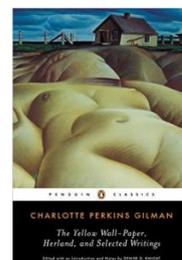
Find quotations supporting the internal thoughts, feelings and actions of your chosen character.

# Key Quotes Analysis – Activity 6

**Directions:** Read each quote below and identify its speaker and the character(s) who relate to it. Then, circle the theme(s) listed in the Themes Key that apply to each quote. Some quotes may lack a direct speaker (such as if the quote is an unnamed narrator) or have no related characters. In those cases it is fine to leave the “Speaker” or “Related character(s)” fields blank.

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<p>It used to disturb me at first. I thought seriously of burning the house—to reach the smell. But now I am used to it. The only thing I can think of that it is like is the COLOR of the paper! A yellow smell.</p>	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1          2          3          4

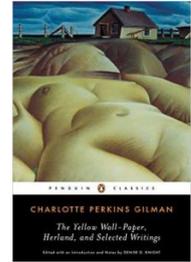
<p>There is a very funny mark on this wall, low down, near the mopboard. A streak that runs round the room. It goes behind every piece of furniture, except the bed, a long, straight, even SMOOCH, as if it had been rubbed over and over. I wonder how it was done and who did it, and what they did it for. Round and round and round—round and round and round—it makes me dizzy!</p>	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1          2          3          4

# Key Quotes Analysis – Activity 7

**Directions:** Read each quote below and identify its speaker and the character(s) who relate to it. Then, circle the theme(s) listed in the Themes Key that apply to each quote. Some quotes may lack a direct speaker (such as if the quote is an unnamed narrator) or have no related characters. In those cases it is fine to leave the “Speaker” or “Related character(s)” fields blank.

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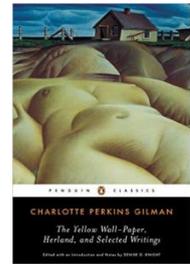
I always lock the door when I creep by daylight. I can't do it at night, for I know John would suspect something at once.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1      2      3      4

# Key Quotes Analysis – Activity 8

Read each quote below and identify its speaker and the character(s) who relate to it. Then, circle the theme(s) listed in the Themes Key that apply to each quote. Some quotes may lack a direct speaker (such as if the quote is an unnamed narrator) or have no related characters. In those cases it is fine to leave the "Speaker" or "Related character(s)" fields blank.

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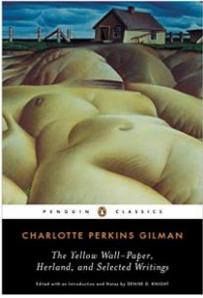


Then I peeled off all the paper I could reach standing on the floor. It sticks horribly and the pattern just enjoys it! All those strangled heads and bulbous eyes and waddling fungus growths just shriek with derision!	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1          2          3          4

I am getting angry enough to do something desperate. To jump out of the window would be admirable exercise, but the bars are too strong even to try. Besides I wouldn't do it. Of course not. I know well enough that a step like that is improper and might be misconstrued.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1          2          3          4

I suppose I shall have to get back behind the pattern when it comes night, and that is hard! It is so pleasant to be out in this great room and creep around as I please! I don't want to go outside. I won't, even if Jennie asks me to. For outside you have to creep on the ground, and everything is green instead of yellow. But here I can creep smoothly on the floor, and my shoulder just fits in that long smooch around the wall, so I cannot lose my way.	Speakers:
	Related character(s):
	Related Themes: 1          2          3          4

"I've got out at last," said I, "in spite of you and Jane. And I've pulled off most of the paper, so you can't put me back!" Now why should that man have fainted? But he did, and right across my path by the wall, so that I had to creep over him every time!	Speakers:



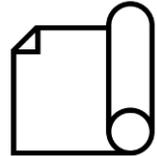
# Symbols Activity 9

## *Evidence and Analysis*

**Directions:** Describe or use a quote to identify three instances in which each symbol appears in *The Yellow Wallpaper*, and write a short paragraph describing the context and significance of that appearance. Then write a

longer paragraph

analyzing the broader meaning of the symbol in *The Yellow Wallpaper*.



## The Wallpaper

Quote or Description	Context and Significance
1.	
2.	
3.	

### Meaning of the Symbol

The yellow wallpaper of the 'nursery' gives this story its title, and becomes an obsession of **the narrator**, who begins to view it as a living entity. Its significance shifts as the story progresses, but it is most importantly a symbol of the narrator's worsening mental state. It is partly a puzzle that confounds interpretation, a challenge to be overcome, and partly a malevolent, all-pervasive force that keeps her from resting soundly. Since the narrator is unable to convince her husband, **John**, to change the wallpaper, it also represents her impotence in the household and his dismissal of her concerns.

# The Diary Activity 10



Quote or Description	Context and Significance
1.	
2.	
3.	

Meaning of the Symbol
<p>Think about when she writes her diary? Is it is a character in the story?</p>

## Activity 11

Using your dual coding skills summarise the plot using either a table to organise your ideas or simply mind map the story.

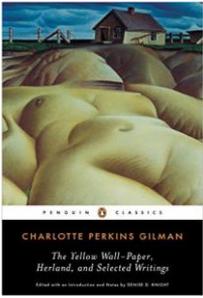
# The Mysterious Figure Activity 12



Quote or Description	Context and Significance
1.	
2.	
3.	

Meaning of the Symbol
<p>Who could it be?</p> <p>What is the significance of the figure?</p>





## Themes Activity 14

### *Evidence and Analysis*



**Directions:** A theme is a concept or idea that an author explores in a literary work. For each theme, collect 5-6 – add these to the chart on the next page. You are looking for details from *The Yellow Wallpaper* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore that theme and enter them in the Evidence section of the table.

Next, use the evidence you've collected to write a Theme Description that explains the role of the theme in *The Yellow Wallpaper*. Your Theme Description should be 1-2 paragraphs. Here are some questions to consider as you write each Theme Description:

- How do the ideas or actions of the main characters reflect different aspects of the theme?
- Does the theme develop or change over the course of *The Yellow Wallpaper*? If so, how?
- If your evidence includes symbols, explain how the author uses those symbols to explore the theme.
- If your evidence includes specific quotes from the text, explain how those quotes provide examples of how the theme applies to *The Yellow Wallpaper*?











## **Activity 19**

Draw the wallpaper using the description from the text.

# Activity 20

Answer the comprehension style questions.

Why have the narrator and her husband rented the summer house?

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.....  
.....

2. How does the narrator say John feels about intangible things?

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3. Why does the narrator suggest she's not getting well because of the fact that her husband is a physician? What does this say about their relationship?

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4. How does the narrator initially explain her condition?

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