

## Language and Power in *The Handmaid's Tale* Reflection Activity

Write a one paragraph response to one of Offred's language musings. Using Offred's musings as a model (consider good examples such as "reduced circumstances" [8], "sitting room" [9], "Fraternize...Sororize" [11], "undone" [25]), further explore the connotations and denotations of the use of the word or phrase in Gilead *and* in your own world.

Based on the presentations and your own group's study, predict how you think the relationship between language and power will contribute to the meaning of rest of the novel, and the novel as a whole.