

Plan a circle: “The Yellow Wallpaper”

Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1892) · public-domain short story · grades 10–12 · ~1 week / two meetings. Rights: Public domain.

Kit section 5 (group agreement & calendar), scaffolded for this text. Students fill the group, calendar, and roles.

Preview note: Preview for mental illness and controlling medical/gender dynamics; plan support.

Text, group, and target

Text / author / edition	“The Yellow Wallpaper” — Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1892). _____ (edition)
Group / period / dates	
Grade / TEKS target (p. 3)	English III · §110.38 — 6(A): relationships among literary elements; 5(C,D): analytic commentary and summary; 1(D): student-led discussion.
Learning intention	We are learning to explain how the setting and the “rest cure” reveal a theme about autonomy and gender.
Success criteria	I bring one open question, cite two details with locations, respond to a peer, and name how my thinking changed.

Reading map & calendar

Chunk	Read through	Meeting date · leader
1	Arrival at the house, the wallpaper introduced, and John’s control.	
2	The narrator’s growing fixation through the final “creeping.”	

Members & first-meeting jobs (p. 7 roles)

Member	First job	Rotates to (next meeting)

Text-specific discussion questions (open — more than one answer)

- **Predict:** The narrator is told to rest and not write — what will forced idleness do to her? What clue hints at it?
- **Question:** Why might Gilman make the wallpaper’s “woman” appear only to the narrator?
- **Clarify:** What does the narrator mean when she “gets out at last”?
- **Summarize:** Trace how her view of the wallpaper changes across the story, without opinion.
- **Interpret the theme:** How do the setting and John’s control reveal a theme about women’s autonomy? Use two details.

Optional Jigsaw lenses (p. 4): *Character* (the narrator and John) · *Symbol* (the wallpaper and its “woman”) · *Point of view* (the journal, increasingly unreliable) · *Theme* (autonomy and gender) · *Language* (the fragmented entries).

Reading notes: "The Yellow Wallpaper"

Name: _____ · **Home group:** _____ · **Section:** "The Yellow Wallpaper," _____ · **Expert lens:** _____

Everyone prepares. Read the whole assigned section. Write or draw three important ideas, two supporting details with locations, and one summary in your own words. Keep interpretation separate from summary.

Questions

What needs clarification?
What could the group explore?

3 · Important ideas

Character choices, conflicts, themes, or central ideas.

1.

2.

3.

Vocabulary

Word + location + meaning or clue.
Mark anything still uncertain.

2 · Supporting details

Short quote or accurate paraphrase + page/paragraph + what it shows.

1.

2.

1 · Summary in my own words

Bring to the circle

My interpretation: These details suggest _____

Synthesis (connect two lenses): _____

After discussion: My thinking changed / became clearer because _____

TEKS evidence: 6(C,D) supported inference; 7(A) theme through characters/events; 1(D) response to a peer. · Pair with the PlotPoint "The Yellow Wallpaper" room.