Investigating Section 5: Nap - Chapter thirteen
- Throughout the novel Atwood shifts the action between past and present. She also changes her use of tense.
  - Notice where and why she does this in this section.
- Try re-writing in the past tense part of Atwood’s present tense account of Offred’s attempted escape with Luke and their daughter.
  - Observe carefully the changes you had to make and the difference the tense change made to the impact of the account.

Investigating Section 6: Household - Chapter fourteen
- Use the internet to explore further some of the areas which Atwood touches on in this chapter, such as:
  - Apartheid
  - Quakers
  - Televangelism
  - Puritanism.

Investigating Section 6: Household - Chapter fifteen
- Throughout this chapter Atwood uses imagery to describe the Commander and his behaviour.
  - Re-read the chapter, making a list of any images you find - both similes and metaphors
  - Try to assess the picture of the Commander that emerges.

Investigating Section 6: Household - Chapter sixteen
- Try re-writing the first four paragraphs of this chapter (from ‘The Ceremony goes on’ to ‘may not be revenge’) from the point of view of Serena Joy.
  - What differences in both physical and emotional viewpoint do you notice?
  - Would you expect Serena Joy to feel any sympathy for Offred?

Investigating Section 6: Household - Chapter seventeen
- Consider the importance of names
  - How far do they help to define one’s identity?
- Which characters in fiction have aptonyms (names which are appropriate to their character, such as Mrs. Malaprop from the play The Rivals) or names which suggest something of their qualities (such as Jane Eyre)?
  - Why might Atwood choose not to reveal explicitly the real name of Offred?