*The Handmaid’s Tale*

*Take-Home Evaluation*

Choose ONE of the following four questions and answer it in complete sentences. Be sure to provide sufficient evidence to support your answer. Also, use the proper paragraph format, as seen in class (essay style answer). Finally, this is a formal assignment. Therefore, avoid using informal expressions (i.e. pronoun usage, vocabulary, etc.).

1. Briefly summarize the roles and tasks of the following groups of people:

* The Aunts
* The Marthas
* The Wives
* The Commanders
* The Handmaids

Furthermore, how do you feel about each group? Do you feel sorry for them? Are they sympathetic characters or monsters? Support your opinions with evidence from the novel.

1. In your opinion, is the reader supposed to feel sorry for Offred at the end of the novel or is the reader supposed to appreciate her and her will to survive? Formulate a thesis and support said thesis with TWO arguments. You must also provide examples which support your arguments. Finally, include two quotations from the novel in your two body paragraphs.
2. Do you think Atwood’s vision of the future is realistic? If so, choose two current events which can be compared to events from the novel and explain how these current events could lead to the events seen in the novel. If you do not think the author’s vision of the future is realistic, identify two current events and contrast them with events from the novel.
3. In your opinion, who is worse off in this society? Is it better to know what’s happening, even if you’re powerless to change things, or is it better to not even realize the sadness of your situation? Justify your answer with three specific examples from the novel.