

Top 10 Features

After reading the first seven chapters, work in pairs to –

1. Read the list of features below and add an extra point of your own choice if you like.
2. Rank order the features from one to ten, starting with the one that best characterises the novel for you as a reader.
3. For your top **three features**, find evidence from the text to support and explain your choices.
4. Justify your choice to the rest of the group, making use of the evidence you have found.

This is a novel:

- with a strong sense of place and time
- about loss, e.g. of freedom, mothers, children
- about the exploitation of women
- about male power and conflict
- with an unusual structure and unreliable narrator
- that explores a society based on repressive religious systems
- about the control of language and therefore thought
- of alienation and unbelonging
- exploring political systems
- containing a warning
- in which (not listed above) is important.

Feature	Evidence from the text
1.	
2.	
3.	

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

Add further notes here.