

# Women in the 1800's Synthesis Essay

**Choose one of the following prompts:**

- Based on our readings from this unit, was what life like for women during this era? What were the women authors trying to bring attention to, and through doing this, improve?
- Based on our readings from this unit, examine how men viewed women (and their roles in marriage, as a mother, and within society), in comparison to how women viewed themselves.
- Based on our readings from this unit, What were some of the key messages from women authors of this era? What aspects of society were they hoping to improve?

**Then, construct an essay that meets the following requirements:**

- Is a five-paragraph essay
- Contains at least three pieces of textual evidence per body paragraph
- Uses at least 4 of the readings (see below for the list of options)
- Contains in-text citations and a works cited page and adheres to all MLA requirements
- Adheres to proper spelling, grammar, and mechanics
- Answers the entirety of the chosen prompt, and does not stray from it

**Readings:**

- An excerpt from *The Angel in the House* by Coventry Patmore
- A Nineteenth-Century Husband's Letter to His Wife
- "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
- "Much Madness is divinest Sense" by Emily Dickinson
- Dr. Weir Mitchell: The Rest Cure and 19th Century Myths about Women's Bodies
- "Why I Wrote 'The Yellow Wallpaper'" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
- "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin
- "The Marriage Vow" by Letitia Elizabeth Landon
- "Love and Hate" by Elizabeth Siddal