Initiation

Sylvia Plath (1952)

1. Time references

Write down all time references in the text that help to understand the chronological order of the events. Always put down the words as they appear in the text, add the page number and explain what happens at that point of time (see example; always use the present tense!).

"October moon" (137): Millicent sits in Betsy Johnson's cellar.

2. The protagonist

Write down everything you can find about Millicent—no matter whether it refers to the past or the present (see example).

"her case would be quite different" (137)

3. The man and the "heather birds"

Write down everything you can find about a) the man and b) the heather birds (see examples). Then describe them in your own words in two to three sentences.

"one man left in the corner of the back seat" (144)

"Heather birds live on the mythological moors and fly about all day long, singing wild and sweet in the sun." (144)

4. "Her revolt" (137)
By means of quotations give reasons for Millicent's revolt (see example).

"She could not exactly say what had decided her revolt, but it definitely had something to do with Tracy and something to do with the heather birds." (137)