

Name:  
Date:

Period:  
Ms. Lopez

***Letters to a Young Poet* and “Initiation”**  
**Lesson 6 – The Initiation**

Directions: Base your responses to the following questions on the section of the text that begins on page 245, paragraph 11, “It’s fifteen minutes before the bus gets into town,’ Bev was saying then” to the end of the text.

1. Is the experience on the bus as embarrassing for Millicent as Bev intends it to be? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the story.

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2. How does Millicent’s encounter with the man in the back seat of the bus change her feelings?

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3. What words and phrases are used to describe the man in the back seat of the bus? What effect do these details create?

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4. What does Liane explain is the routine of the sorority? What does she claim is the major benefit of membership in the sorority?

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5. Discuss the meaning of the birds in the text, including the organization of the information.  
(More space on back)

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6. What three things does Millicent think of that influence her decision?

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7. What are the “two kinds of victory” Millicent believes she will achieve? What is she proving, and to whom is she proving it?

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8. What three words and phrases does Plath use to describe Millicent’s “initiation”? Explain the meaning of each.

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9. What words and phrases does Plath use to reveal the movement of time? Cite two examples. Then, explain the importance of the timing of the event in each example.

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