**DISCUSSION POINTS FOR TOPIC 2 OF *SHE WORE A YELLOW DRESS***

1. Egg collecting and birdwatching were hobbies John adopted because of living in the countryside and spending much of his time out of the house. How did your hobbies come about?
2. John believes that the skills acquired during birdwatching helped him throughout his life, both career and socially. Did your hobbies assist you in any particular way “growing up”?
3. What do you consider to be the merits of birdwatching and is it something you have ever done? What type of personality might find this activity satisfying? How might you recommend it to a friend?
4. Were the illustrations and descriptions of birds at the end of each chapter helpful in any way?
5. What should be done to lessen the threats faced by the global bird population today; a 2018 report suggests that 40 percent of bird species throughout the world are in decline; 1,469 bird species globally are threatened with extinction (1 our out of 8 species); examples include the Snowy Owl, Puffin and European Turtle Dove; contributing factors include:

* Loss of suitable ecosystems through agricultural expansion and intensification, plus deforestation.
* Urban development also diminishing habitat.
* Unsuitable land and fisheries management disrupting food supplies.
* Water scarcity.
* Illegal taking of birds and their eggs (for example, birds of prey)
* Global warming (birds moving north, migrating birds arriving earlier, elevation shifts associated with precipitation and temperature change, changes in food supply, drought and exposure to wildfires and danger caused by wind farms).
* The use of poisons and pesticides

1. Would you support a hobby enjoyed by your significant other, even when you dislike the activity?