

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit 2: The World as Stage**

**1984 Book II Questions**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** As you read Book II of Orwell's *1984*, answer the following questions. If you require more than the space provided for any of the questions, please record your responses on a separate sheet of paper and staple it when you turn in this assignment.

**Chapter 1**

1. Describe the incident with the girl with the dark hair.
2. When Parsons sat next to Winston, what was he enthusiastic about?
3. Why is sending a letter in the mail not an option?
4. Where are Winston and this girl supposed to meet?
5. When Winston meets the girl, what is causing a diversion for them? What do Winston and the girl do before parting?

**Chapter 2**

1. Over what distance does one need a passport?
2. What is Winston shock to find out that Julia already knew?
3. What does Winston tell Julia he thought of her before?
4. What does Julia pull out of her pocket?
5. What does Julia say is the only way to stay safe?
6. What does Julia say she saw in Winston?
7. Winston says the place is just like what other place?
8. When Winston finds out that Julia has done this with scores of other men, what is Winston's reaction?
9. Winston is not really interested in love. What is he interested in and why?

10. How does Winston view his and Julia's act? What kind of act is it?

### Chapter 3

Summary: The next morning, Julia makes the practical preparations for their return to London, and she and Winston head back to their normal lives. Over the coming weeks, they arrange several brief meetings in the city. At a rendezvous in a ruined church, Julia tells Winston about living in a hostel with thirty other girls, and about her first illicit sexual encounter. Unlike Winston, Julia is not interested in widespread rebellion; she simply likes outwitting the Party and enjoying herself. She explains to Winston that the Party prohibits sex in order to channel the sexual frustration of the citizenry into fervent opposition to Party enemies and impassioned worship of Big Brother. Winston tells Julia about a walk he once took with his ex-wife Katherine, during which he thought about pushing her off of a cliff. He says that it would not have mattered whether he pushed her or not, because it is impossible to win against the forces of oppression that govern their lives.

### Chapter 4

1. At the beginning of the chapter, where is Winston?
2. Who wrote the words of the songs that the proles sing?
3. Why had working hours been increased?
4. What gifts does Julia bring, and where did she get them?
5. When Winston saw the make-up and smelled the perfume, what was he reminded of?
6. What did one never see anymore except in the homes of the proles?
7. What does Julia throw her shoe at? What is Winston's reaction to this?
8. What does Julia say that she will clean some day?

### Chapter 5

Summary: As Winston predicted would happen, Syme vanishes. During the preparations for Hate Week, the city comes alive with the heat of the summer, and even the proles seem rowdy. Parsons hangs streamers everywhere and his children sing a new song, called "Hate Song," written in celebration of the event. Winston becomes increasingly obsessed with the room above Mr. Charrington's shop, thinking about it even when he cannot go there. He fantasizes that Katherine will die, which would allow him to marry Julia; he even dreams of altering his identity to become a prole. Winston and Julia talk about the Brotherhood; he tells her about the strange kinship he feels with O'Brien, and she tells him that she believes the war and Party enemies like Emmanuel Goldstein to be Party inventions. Winston is put off by her thoughtless lack of concern, and scolds her for being a rebel only from the waist down.

## Chapter 6

1. Under what pretense does O'Brien stop to talk to Winston?
2. When talking about Newspeak, O'Brien references a friend of Winston. What is the name and what happens when O'Brien talks about him?
3. What does O'Brien offer to let Winston see?
4. What did Winston do with the address?
5. What are Winston's feelings about his meeting with O'Brien?

## Chapter 7

Summary: One morning, Winston wakes up crying in the room above Mr. Charrington's antiques shop. Julia is with him, and asks him what is wrong. He tells her that he has been dreaming of his mother, and that until that moment, he has subconsciously believed that he murdered her. He is suddenly gripped with a sequence of memories that he had repressed. He remembers his childhood after his father left: he, his mother, and his baby sister spent most of their time in underground shelters hiding from air raids, often going without food. Consumed by hunger, Winston stole some chocolate from them and ran away, never to see them again. He hates the Party for having eliminated human feelings. He believes that the proles are still human, but that Party members like him and Julia are forced to suppress their own feelings to the point that they become virtually inhuman. Winston and Julia worry because they know that if they are captured, they will be tortured and possibly killed, and that renting the room above Mr. Charrington's shop dramatically increases the likelihood that they *will* be captured. Fretfully, they reassure one another that although the torture will undoubtedly make them confess their crimes, it cannot make them stop loving each other. They agree that the wisest course of action would be to leave the room forever, but they cannot.

## Chapter 8

1. While at O'Brien's, who walks them from the door to O'Brien?
2. What does O'Brien do that amazes Julia and Winston?
3. What do they drink and whom do they drink to?
4. What are a couple of acts O'Brien asks them if they are willing to do for the Brotherhood?
5. Although there is only a hint at this, what tone does it seem O'Brien is speaking in, according to the narrator?
6. What will be the method by which Winston is going to get Goldstein's book?

**Chapter 9**

1. What happened on the sixth day of hate week?
2. What is the explanation for the Eurasia signs when the really enemy becomes Eastasia?
3. What happened for Winston during the disorder of tearing down posters?
4. Why at the end of the rally did everyone from the Ministry of Truth have to go to work?

Summary: In the room at Mr. Charrington's, Winston reads through Goldstein's *The Theory and Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism*, given to him by O'Brien. This lengthy book, with chapter titles taken from party slogans such as "WAR IS PEACE" and "IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH," traces a theory of social classes throughout recent history: High Class, Middle Class, and Low Class—the Inner Party, the Outer Party, and the Proles. According to the manifesto, Eurasia was created when Russia subsumed all of Europe, Oceania was created when the United States absorbed the British Empire, and Eastasia is made up of the remaining nations. These three nations keep their respective populaces preoccupied with a perpetual border war in order to preserve power among the High class. Goldstein writes that the war never advances significantly, as no two allied nations can defeat the third. The war is simply a fact of life that enables the ruling powers to keep the masses ignorant of life in other places—the real meaning of the phrase "WAR IS PEACE." As Winston reads, Julia enters the room and flings herself into his arms. She is casually glad to know that he has the book. After half an hour in bed together, during which they hear the red-armed woman singing outside, Winston reads to Julia from the book. Goldstein explains that the control of history is a central tool of the Party. He adds that doublethink allows Inner Party members to be the most zealous about pursuing the war mentality, even though they know the falsity of the histories they write. Winston finally asks Julia if she is awake—she is not—and falls asleep himself. His last thought is that "sanity is not statistical."

**Chapter 10**

1. Why is odd that the clock says only twenty-thirty?
2. Why does Julia find it odd that the stove is out of oil?
3. Winston knew what must be Goldstein's final message?
4. What was behind the picture?
5. What happens to the paperweight?
6. What happens to Julia?
7. What do we find out about Mr. Charrington?