Summer Reading Study Guide

George Orwell’s *1984*

**Part 1 - Chapter 1**

1. What is the protagonist’s name?

2. How is the protagonist dressed?

3. Who are the thought police? What device do they use in order to monitor individuals’ actions?

4. Where does Winston work?

5. What are the three slogans of the Party? What is ironic about these statements?

6. Name three of the ministries and what each controls.

7. What activity does Winston partake in which could be punished by death?

8. What does Winston write about?

9. Why is Winston attracted to O’Brien? What does he hope?

10. Who is Emmanuel Goldstein?
11. Describe the Two Minutes Hate.

12. Who is Big Brother?

13. What is thought crime? What happens to perpetrators of it?

14. Describe the society of 1984 as it is suggested by Chapter 1.

Chapter 2

15. Who is Mrs. Parsons?

16. Describe the Parson children. What are their interests?

17. Why does Winston say “It was almost normal for people over thirty to be frightened of their own children?”

18. Why does Winston believe he is already dead?

Chapter 3

19. What happened to Winston’s mother?
20. What is Winston doing in front of the telescreen?

Chapter 4

21. What does Winston do, exactly, as a career?

22. What is Ampleforth’s forte?

23. Which Ministry does Winston work for?

24. Describe Newspeak.

Chapter 5

25. Syme is not a friend, but rather a ________________. Why is this significant?

26. What kind of lunch is served to the workers?

27. What do Syme and Winston discuss?

28. What will the new word for bad be when the new dictionary is finished?

29. Why will Syme be vaporized, according to Winston?
30. Who is Parsons?

31. What is the favorite line repeated by the Ministry of Plenty?
   a. What is ironic about this line?

32. Why is Winston nervous towards the end of the chapter? Who is looking at him?

33. What is “facecrime?”

Chapter 6

34. Besides writing in his diary, how does Winston break Party rules?

35. What was wrong with Winston’s wife? What could he not tolerate?

Chapter 7

36. What does Winston write about the Proles? Why does he feel this way?

37. Who are the Proles?

38. How does the Party control history?
Chapter 8

39. What is ownlife? How does the concept of ownlife connect with the rest of the novel?

40. Who does hope lie with according to Winston? Why?

41. What is a steamer?

42. About what does Winston question the old man in the pub? What is Winston trying to determine?

43. What does Winston buy?

44. Why is Winston afraid? Who does he see?
Summer Reading Study Guide
George Orwell’s 1984

Part 2 - Chapter 1

45. What is on the secret message that Winston receives at work?

46. How does he feel after he receives the note?

47. What suspenseful event is taking shape by the end of the chapter?

Chapter 2

48. Why is the country just as dangerous as the city in terms of Big Brother?

49. Why was Julia attracted to Winston, according to what she confides?

50. Why does Winston say “I hate purity, I hate goodness?” What exactly does he mean?

Chapter 3

51. Where does Julia live?

52. Where does she work?
53. What does goodthinkful mean?

54. Who is Katharine?

55. What new insights do we gain into the Party from Julia?

Chapter 4

56. Who is Mr. Charrington?

57. What does Julia bring with her when she meets Winston in Mr. Charrington’s room?

58. What is Winston particularly disgusted by?

59. What does the paperweight seem to symbolize?

Chapter 5

60. What happened to Syme?

61. What is Hate Week?
62. How has Winston changed since beginning his love affair with Julia?

63. Orwell tells us that in some ways Julia is more astute than Winston. Give an example.

64. In what ways is Winston more astute than Julia?

Chapter 6

65. Who catches Winston and Julia communicating?

66. Why is Winston excited about talking to O’Brien?

67. What foreboding feeling does he have?

Chapter 7

68. What happened to Winston’s father?

69. Why does Winston feel responsible for his mother’s death? To what do you attribute his horrible actions?

70. What happened to his mother and sister?
71. How do Julia and Winston feel they will remain “human” even under torture?

Chapter 8

72. Where are Julia and Winston in this chapter? Why is this significant?

73. How does the Inner Party lifestyle differ from the lifestyle of party members such as Julia and Winston?

74. What does Winston admit?

75. What group do Winston and Julia join? Who is the leader?

Chapter 9

76. Why is Winston exhausted?

77. What is the primary goal of warfare according to the book from O’Brien?

78. In war, what is destroyed?

79. What is ironic about the war among the three superstates?
80. How does one become a member of the Inner Party?

81. How do the three superstates differ?

82. Name two other “facts” from the Brotherhood. Does Winston really learn anything new?

83. What is doublethink?

Chapter 10

84. What does Winston realize about the woman singing?

85. What does she symbolize?

86. What pivotal event occurs? Did you expect it? Why or why not?

87. Mr. Charrington is a member of what organization?
88. Summer Reading Study Guide
89. George Orwell’s 1984

Part 3 - Chapter 1

90. What is ironic about the Ministry of Love?

91. Who from Winston’s life is thrown into the cell with him?

92. Who turned in Parsons?

Chapter 2

93. Besides Mr. Charrington, who betrays Winston?

94. O’Brien tortures Winston because Winston insists what?

95. What is the implication here? What does the party demand?

96. Does the Brotherhood really exist?
Chapter 3

97. Why does the party run the way that it does?

98. According to O’Brien, existence is only through what?

99. What is the picture of humanity that O’Brien paints?

100. Ironically, O’Brien tells Winston not give up hope because eventually the party will do what?

Chapter 4

101. What is the final place all prisoners fear most?

Chapter 5

102. What is in Room 101?

103. What would be in your Room 101? What is in Winston’s?

104. What is Winston’s final act of submission? His ultimate betrayal? Has he truly become “the dead?”
Chapter 6

105. Describe Winston in the final chapter. What has happened to him?

106. What is one theme of the novel?

107. What is the most disturbing part of the book?

108. Could a society such as that depicted in 1984 really develop? Discuss.