

1984

Lesson #2

Informal Quiz

I. The girl with the dark hair is a member of the _____.

- a. Inner Party
- b. Junior Spies
- c. Brotherhood
- d. Junior Anti-Sex League

Informal Quiz

2. Where does Winston work?

- a. At the Ministry of Plenty
- b. At the Ministry of Truth
- c. At the Ministry of Love
- d. At the Ministry of Peace

Informal Quiz

3. The following excerpt describes a poster of _____.

“The hallway smelt of boiled cabbage and old rag mats. At one end of it a coloured poster, too large for indoor display, had been tacked to the wall. It depicted simply an enormous face, more than a metre wide; the face of a man of about forty-five, with a heavy black moustache and ruggedly handsome features.”

- a. Emmanuel Goldstein
- b. Big Brother
- c. O'Brien
- d. Winston

Informal Quiz

4. Why are Mrs. Parsons' children disappointed at the beginning of Part I - Chapter 2?

- a. Because they couldn't go see the hanging
- b. Because their father spends too much time working
- c. Because Winston was unable to fix their sink
- d. Because their mother won't play with them

Informal Quiz

5. In Part I - Chapter 3, what activity must Winston participate in almost immediately after waking up?

- a. Two Minutes Hate
- b. The Physical Jerks
- c. Writing in his diary
- d. Hate Week

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think The Party discourages love and emotional interaction between humans? From what you have read, where do we see moments of true human emotion in the novel, and why do they seem so significant? Similarly, where do we see moments of callousness (even from Winston)?

2. Peter Jennings once said, “*Whoever controls the media, controls reality.*” Do you agree? Do we believe the news we read and see on television? Can the news media be used to manipulate us?

Discussion Questions

3. Henry Kissinger wrote, “*History is the memory of states.*” Is history unchangeable, existing independently of human memory or human records, or can history be rewritten using different records and different points of view? What is the importance of history in our lives?

4. Describe how you will begin a rebellion against The Party and how you predict your rebellion will end. Will you succeed in overthrowing The Party, or will you continue to be oppressed?

Journal Entry #1

- At the beginning of the novel, Winston's first (and perhaps most significant) act of rebellion consists of him writing "*down with Big Brother*" over and over again in his own journal for the first time. For your first journal entry, **write a creative piece from the perspective of someone who is under the Party's control.**

- Image a typical day in the life of someone living in **1984**. Discuss how you feel about being under the Party's supervision and control at all times.