

## Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 *Reader's own answers.*
- 3 *Reader's own answer.*

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1 Winston is thirty-nine and not very healthy. He is a small thin man. He has fair hair and the skin on his face is rough. He lives in a flat in Victory House in London, the main city of Airstrip One, in Oceania and he works at the Ministry of Truth. He has decided to write a diary and starts writing it in this chapter. He is a member of the Party which rules Oceania and feels a connection to a man called O'Brien who he thinks, like he himself, is not enthusiastic about the Party. He seems unhappy and perhaps afraid.
- 2 The children belong to an organization called the Spies, which has a uniform of blue shorts, red shirts and red scarves. In the Spies they sing songs, shout slogans and march with guns. Children are savage and angry and they like watching the hangings of criminals. Parents are often afraid of their children because the Thought Police encourage them to spy on their parents and report anything they do or say which is against Party rules. They love the Party and Big Brother more than their parents. They are praised and called "child heroes" in newspaper articles if they tell the police that their parents have done something wrong.
- 3 Winston remembers a dream he had seven years ago in which he heard a voice saying, "*We shall meet in the place where there is no darkness.*" Now, Winston thinks that this was O'Brien's voice though he doesn't know whether they are friends or enemies.

### CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

- 1 Winston's job is to write new articles which change what has been reported in newspapers, so that the past is changed to match what Big Brother and the Party want people to think is true. "Doublethink" is the control of reality by the Party – everyone has to use it to change their memories. Winston's job helps the Party to control reality.
- 2 Syme is a friend of Winston's, though nobody really has "true" friends. He works on the Newspeak Dictionary and is enthusiastic about his work. Winston worries that Syme is too intelligent and thinks too clearly, so the party may have him vaporized.
- 3 Winston notices that a dark-haired young woman, who had sat near him at the Daily Hate the previous day, is sitting at the next table and watching him.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 A few years ago, Winston found a page of the *Times* newspaper with a photograph of three men attending a party meeting in New York. These men had confessed to being in Siberia on the same day, selling secrets to the Eurasian army and had been executed as traitors. Winston remembers this because it was the only time he had actual proof of the way the Party changes history.
- 2 Winston believes that the most important freedom for human society is freedom of speech. If you can say what you believe, then all other problems can be solved.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Mr. Charrington is about sixty, and is old and bent, with a long nose, gentle eyes and thick glasses. His hair is nearly white and he wears an old black, expensive-looking jacket. He sells all kinds of old things (interesting but not valuable) in his shop, which seems to be a

warm and friendly place. He takes Winston upstairs to show him the living room at the back of the shop with more old things in it. Winston bought his diary from the shop.

- Winston sees the dark-haired young woman from the Fiction Department again and he is terrified because he's now certain that she must be spying on him, though he doesn't know the reason. He imagines hitting her on the head with a stone or the glass paperweight in his pocket.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

- Model answer:** The young woman falls over in a corridor in front of him, on an arm which is bandaged, so that Winston has to help her up. As he does this, she gives him a note saying *I love you*. (It is possible that the injury to her arm isn't a real one – Julia makes Winston sorry for her so that he helps her. Perhaps it also gives her somewhere to hide the note.)
- Winston goes to the monument to meet the dark-haired young woman because this is where she has told him to meet her.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

- Julia has light brown eyes and a wide red mouth and is 26 years old. She wears the red scarf of the Anti-Sex Society. She hates the Party very much and her aim in life is to have a good time although the Party doesn't want her to. She isn't interested in conspiracies against the Party. She thinks that happiness is possible if you are clever and lucky and don't get caught – she has brought black market chocolate for them and hasn't been caught with it. She is happy to have sex with Winston and says she has had sex lots of times with Party members. She lives in a house with thirty other young women.
- Reader's own answer.*

## CHAPTER NINE

- She brings black market coffee, sugar, white bread, a jar of jam and a tin of milk. She also paints her face like a proletarian woman with red lips and cheeks.
- Julia is not worried by the rat, she just wants to stop it coming in because rats are dangerous and attack people, particularly children. Winston is terrified because he hates rats and connects them with a horrible dream.

## CHAPTERS TEN AND ELEVEN

- Reader's own answer.*
- It refers to a meeting between O'Brien and Winston.
- The proles have stayed human unlike members of the Party, like Winston. He realizes this when he thinks about his mother and the way she had loved his sister even though she knew she couldn't stop her dying. He realizes that the Party has stopped people caring about each other, but the proles still do.

## CHAPTERS TWELVE AND THIRTEEN

- The building is clean, the lifts work and are silent and there are smells of good food. O'Brien's living room is big and elegant and has a soft expensive carpet. O'Brien has a servant. Winston lives in a small flat in a building which is dirty and cold, where the lifts don't work, where repairs aren't done. People there don't have servants. O'Brien can turn off his telescreen but Winston can't do this.
- Because Winston has heard this sentence in a dream.
- Winston is given Goldstein's book, which he takes to the room above Mr Charrington's shop so that he and Julia can read it.

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

- 1 Strange things start happening. The time on the clock doesn't seem to be what Winston expected. The stove has gone out, though Julia knows that she put oil in it. The room has gone cold. Then a voice starts repeating what they say.
- 2 Winston has always known that the Thought Police watch everybody everywhere, but like everyone else he has never known who they are so he is suspicious of people generally. For instance, he suspected Julia was a member of the Thought Police when he saw her watching him. Now, because Charrington's voice and appearance have changed and he has stopped being a friendly old man and instead has a cold, hard face and is about 35 years old, Winston realizes what the Thought Police do so that no one recognizes them.

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

- 1 Because he wants to make Winston believe what the Party wants him to believe, which is that what it tells him is the truth, rather than what really is the truth.
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 O'Brien makes Winston take off all his clothes and look in the mirror so that he can see how thin and weak he is. He also shows Winston how his hair and teeth are falling out. He tells Winston that his mind is as weak as his body. But Winston tells him that he has not been beaten because he has not betrayed Julia.

## CHAPTERS SEVENTEEN AND EIGHTEEN

- 1 He has called out to Julia in a dream and so has proved that he still cares about her

which is what all the torture has been trying to stop.

- 2 He finally betrays Julia by shouting that they should make the rats attack her instead of him. He doesn't care what they do to her.
- 3 He finally knows that he really loves Big Brother.

## After-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answers.*
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 **a** Goldstein is an enemy of the Party. He has a secret group of followers, and they want to take power from the Party. He has written a book with his ideas in it. The book is secretly passed around among his followers, so that they can share his ideas with other people. Eventually, he wants to lead a revolution against the Party. We do not know if he really exists, if he once existed but is not dead or if the Party has invented him as a hate figure. If anything goes wrong in Oceania, the Party blames Goldstein.  
**b** Big Brother is the leader of the Party and of Oceania. His picture and his slogans are everywhere, and he is the father of all people. Everybody has to love Big Brother, and show that they love him. Nobody is allowed to criticise him. We do not know if he really exists, or if the Party leaders have created him to be the object of people's love.  
**c** Parsons is Winston's neighbour. He lives on the same floor in Victory House as Winston. He is married with two children, a son and a daughter. He loves the Party blindly, and does everything the Party asks. Even he is not safe, however. The Party has created a system where children spy on their parents and report their actions to the Thought Police. Nobody checks if the children are lying. The children are taught to hate their

parents, so Parsons's daughter tells the Thought Police that she has heard her father criticising Big Brother in his sleep.

**d** Mr Charrington runs an antique shop that Winston's comes across in a prole area of town. He is very friendly to Winston, and sells him things that are not allowed, like a notebook and pen. He allows Winston and Julia to rent his upstairs room, and meet there for sex. At first we think that he does not believe in the Party, and that he remembers the days before the Party. But then we learn that he is a member of the Thought Police. All along he has been watching Winston and Julia, and waiting to arrest them. When he does arrest them, they realise that he is actually much younger than he pretended to be.

- 4 a** The Parsons children point toy guns at Winston and scream that he is a thought-criminal. Then the boy throws a stone at Winston, that hits him on the back of his neck. The boy also accuses him of being Goldstein.
- b** The canteen in the Ministry of Truth is where Winston eats lunch and speaks to other people he knows, like his neighbour Parsons and his "friend" Syme. He also sees Julia here, and they are able to pass notes to each other and speak quietly if nobody is looking.
- c** Winston makes his first step towards his own death in Mr Charrington's shop by buying a notebook, which is against Party rules. He is drawn to the shop again, and speaks freely to Mr Charrington. He then rents the room upstairs, and he and Julia meet there often for sex, to talk and to enjoy coffee and chocolate that Julia has bought on the black market.
- d** Room 101 is the place where prisoners are taken at the end of their programme

of torture. In Room 101 you meet the thing you are most afraid of in life. You will be so frightened that you will betray the person that you love most in order to make it stop.

## Exercises

### CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1** 1 From his window, Winston could see **dust** blowing around in the streets below.
- 2** Winston knew that keeping a private diary could get him **executed**.
- 3** If Winston hadn't gone back to work when the clocks **struck** fourteen, he would have been late.
- 4** Often children would **spy** on their parents for the Thought Police.
- 5** People living in Victory House had to keep their own **tools** because nobody repaired anything for them.
- 6** Winston was shocked by how **savage** the Parsons children were.
- 7** Children **were** often **praised** in newspaper articles for telling the Thought Police what their parents had done wrong.
- 8** People have to live on food **rations** in Oceania.

### CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

- 2** 1 The Golden Country **must** have been a real place Winston had once seen.
- 2** Winston felt he **should** have been able to remember more about the past.
- 3** Big Brother **could** not have been wrong about the attack by Eurasian soldiers on Oceanian soldiers, so Winston had to write a new article.
- 4** "Comrade Withers **must** have been guilty of a terrible crime," thought Winston.
- 5** "Tillotson **must** have been given the same article to write as me," thought Winston.

- 6 Winston **could/should** have shared his razor blades with Syme and Parsons, but he didn't want to.
- 7 Winston **could** not have refused to give Parsons \$2.00 for Hate Week, or Parsons would have reported him.
- 8 Winston **should** have kept his face calmer when he heard about the change to the chocolate ration so that nobody could see his feelings.

### CHAPTERS FIVE AND SIX

- 3 1 If Winston **had stayed** (stay) with Katherine, he **would be** (be) more unhappy now.
- 2 Winston thought life **would be/would have been** (be) the same for the proles if the Great Revolution **hadn't happened** (not happen).
- 3 The three Party members **had been visiting** (visit) New York when they confessed to being in Siberia.
- 4 Winston **had been walking/had walked** (walk) for a long time before he came across Mr Charrington's shop.
- 5 If Winston **came back** (come back) to the shop, he **would buy** (buy) the picture of the church.
- 6 "She's **been following**/'s **followed** (follow) me since I left work," thought Winston.

### CHAPTERS SEVEN AND EIGHT

- 4 *Reader's own answers.*  
Check your answers against the definitions given in the Glossary on pages 121—126.

### CHAPTERS NINE AND TEN

- 5 1 knows
- 2 the coffee that Julia has brought
- 3 less like
- 4 doesn't/can't find

- 5 don't believe
- 6 doesn't mention

### CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE

6 1	admire (verb)	to have a high opinion of someone or something
2	confess (verb)	to say you have done something, usually something wrong or bad
3	conscious (adjective)	knowing about something and being able to understand it
4	elegant (adjective)	having good style in your appearance
5	especially (adverb)	applying more to one person or thing than any other
6	greedy (adjective)	wanting or taking too much of something
7	liquid (noun)	a substance that is not solid and can be poured, like water
8	separate (noun/verb/ adjective)	not together

### CHAPTERS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN

- 8 1 While the speech continued **the banners were being torn down (by children)**.
- 2 Julia was not interested in the fact that Winston **had been given Goldstein's book (by a man)**.
- 3 All the articles **that/which had been written (by Winston and his colleagues) contained false information**.
- 4 All the time Winston and Julia **were in their room they were being watched (by someone)**.
- 5 Everything **they said was being repeated (by a voice from the telescreen)**.

- 6 Winston saw that Julia **had been hit in the stomach (by one of the men)**.

## CHAPTERS FIFTEEN AND SIXTEEN

- |             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 8 1 betray  | 2 explosion            |
| 3 freeze    | 4 interrogate          |
| 5 invention | 6 memorable            |
| 7 mystery   | 8 terrible / terrified |

## CHAPTERS SEVENTEEN AND EIGHTEEN

- 9 1 At first, Winston **would** spend most of his time lying on his bed asleep.
- 2 Winston **would** rather sleep than do any exercise.
- 3 For a while Winston felt **quite** happy in his cell.
- 4 He **would** sit every day in a café from fifteen hours.
- 5 Winston was **so** terrified by the rats that he betrayed Julia.
- 6 “I wish that I **hadn’t** seen Julia again,” thought Winston.
- 7 Finally Winston had had **too much** pain – and in the end he loved Big Brother.

### Project work

*Reader’s own answers.*

### Essay questions

*Reader’s own answers.*