

Name _____

Rebellion's Last Stand: Chapters 15-18 of '1984'

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Winston's transformation into a loyal Party member in Chapter 15 is the culmination of relentless physical and psychological torture and reeducation. He has been broken down, both physically and mentally, and taught to love Big Brother and embrace the Party's ideology. His transformation represents the Party's complete control and manipulation of its citizens, showing that even the most rebellious individuals can be crushed under its power.
2. The childhood memory of stealing chocolate in Chapter 17 is a symbol of innocence and a simpler time in Winston's life. However, in the context of the novel, it relates to Winston's understanding of the Party's control over truth. The memory demonstrates that the Party can manipulate even the most personal and innocent aspects of one's life, distorting reality to suit its agenda. This memory serves as a powerful reminder of the Party's ability to shape the past and control the present.
3. Winston's gaze at a portrait of Big Brother in the concluding chapter encapsulates his journey from rebellion to submission. It signifies his complete surrender to the Party's ideology and authority. This moment reveals the power of the Party's control, as Winston, once a defiant rebel, now embraces the very symbol of his oppression. It serves as a chilling reminder of the Party's ability to crush dissent and reshape individuals.
4. "1984" explores themes of individuality, rebellion, and the consequences of totalitarianism. Winston's story serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of oppressive regimes and the erosion of personal freedom. It highlights the importance of preserving individuality and resisting the control of authoritarian governments. The novel underscores the need to safeguard truth and freedom in the face of manipulation and propaganda, offering a stark warning about the potential consequences of unchecked power.

