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| 1. Quote: “They were the homes of four ministries between which the entire apparatus  25 Double Entries  2011  1984 – George Orwell  Garrett Chan  August 24, 2011  o  f government was divided: the Ministry of Truth, which concerned itself with news, entertainment, education, and the fine arts; the Ministry of Peace, which concerned itself with war; the Ministry of Love, which maintained law and order; and the Ministry of Plenty, which was responsible for economic affairs”. (pg. 4) | Purpose: Orwell explains the setting of 1984 right away. But what struck me were the titles of departments in the government. I see a paradox. For example, the Ministry of Truth. To me, that makes hardly any sense. What this shows, is the corruption in the government. If this were legitimate, the Ministry of Truth would be renamed to something like the Ministry of Public Works, not something like truth. Orwell definitely put it in there to make the reader stop and think for a moment. If you take a look at our government today, the sections within do not have fallacies like in the society in *1984*. |
| 2. Quote: “Then the face of Big Brother faded away again, and instead the three slogans of the Party stood out in bold capitals:  WAR IS PEACE  FREEDOM IS SLAVERY  IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH.  (pg. 16) | Personal Link: This quote appeals to me, because the slogan makes no sense. How does war equate to peace, or freedom equal slavery? Nonetheless, the average citizen doesn’t go against these statements, but rather agrees with it. This to me shows that Big Brother is an oppressive force, who mainly pushes ideas onto people. Furthermore, these people are not aware of what the slogan really means, or how it’s wrong. |
| 3. Quote: “It was almost normal for people over thirty to be frightened of their own children. And with good reason, for hardly a week passed in which the *Times* did not carry a paragraph describing how some eavesdropping little sneak—“child hero” was the phrase generally used—had overhead some compromising remark and denounced his parents to the Thought Police.” (pg.24) | Explanation: Orwell put this in to show corrupted the society is. Think about it from a logical perspective. Why would a kid want to turn his/her parent in? Perhaps the children in *1984* think it’s cool and that it is a service to the Party. However, what is more surprising is that events such as these are common in the novel. I think that the Party’s influence is a bit too strong on the civilians. |
| 4. Quote: “Comrade Ogilvy, unimagined an hour ago was now a fact. It struck him as curious that you could create dead men but not living ones. Comrade Ogilvy, who had never existed in the present, now existed in the past, and when once the act of forgery was forgotten, he would exist just as authentically, and upon the same evidence, as Charlemagne or Julius Caesar”. (pg. 48) | Personal Link: This quote appeals to me, mainly because this lies in Winston’s expertise. Not only that, but I feel that history should be something set in stone. However, in the novel, it’s possible to create dead and past records of people, such as Comrade Ogilvy. |
| 5. Quote: “Orthodoxy means not thinking—not needing to think. Orthodoxy is unconsciousness. One of these days, thought Winston with sudden deep conviction, Syme will be vaporized. He is too intelligent. He sees too clearly and speaks too plainly. The Party does not like such people. One day he will disappear. It is written in his face”. (pg. 53) | Meaning: Unfortunately, many free thinkers and protesters are dealt with in the novel. Winston mentions that his colleague, Syme, is one such person. Winston talks about his flaws of understanding and speaking plainly. These two traits prove fatal to not only Syme, but his coworkers as well. What this shows about the Party, is that they are afraid of protests, but also do not take risks when it comes to Party members. Unfortunately, Syme is set to disappear no matter what happens. |
| 6. Quote: “Your worst enemy, he reflected, was your own nervous system. At any moment the tension inside you was liable to translate itself into some visible symptom”. (pg. 64) | Explanation: Sometimes reflexes can lead to the worst of situations. That is what Winston is trying to say. Whatever tension and anxiety you have could turn into visible symptoms. This gives a clear visual to the Party that something isn’t going right. Inevitably, if your tension breaks loose, the Party might be the end of you. That is why Winston calls your own nervous system, your worst enemy. |
| 7. Quote: “She had not a thought in her head that was not a slogan, and there was no imbecility, absolutely none, that she was not capable of swallowing if the Party handed it out to her. “The human sound track” he nicknamed her in his own mind. Yet he could have endured living with her if it had not been for just one thing—sex”. (pg. 66) | Purpose: Winston talks about his wife, Katherine, and how she was a pure fanatic of the Party. Because she worships the Party, and devotes her utmost loyalty, Winston hates her… Except he find a use in her. Essentially, Katherine was just an outlet for sexual desire from Winston. This quote serves two purposes. For one, it gives a measurement of Winston’s hate for the Party. But second, it shows that Winston is still a human at heart, who needs a source of pleasure in his bleak world. |
| 8. Quote: “The sexual act, successfully performed, was rebellion. Desire was thoughtcrime. Even to have awakened Katharine, if he could have achieved it, would have been like a seduction, although she was his wife”. (pg. 68) | Meaning: The sexual act was banned by the Party for a few reasons. One was the fact that it produced a rebellious person. Secondly, the desire and thoughts a person had from the act, would be thoughtcrime. Desire would bring up freedom. And by the Party’s standards, freedom is slavery. Therefore the act of desiring something, or finding pleasure in someone, was against the Party’s rule. |
| 9. Quote: “The ideal set up by the Party was something huge, terrible, and glittering—a world of steel and concrete, of monstrous machines and terrifying weapons—a nation of warriors and fanatics, marching forward in perfect unity, all thinking the same thoughts and shouting the same slogans, perpetually working, fighting, triumphing, persecuting—three hundred million people all with the same face”. (pg. 74) | Personal Link: This is outright definition of Totalitarianism. While the Party may seem like they know what they are doing, their main goal is something much more negative. What I feel from this quote is that the Party plans to brainwash each and every civilian into thinking the same thing, and spouting the same nonsense. Katherine was an example of one such doll, however towards the future, maybe the Party could create something much more dastardly. |
| 10. Quote: “They were like the ant, which can see small objects but not large ones. And when memory failed and written records were falsified—when that happened, the claim of the Party to have improved the conditions of human life had got to be accepted, because there did not exist, and never again could exist, any standard against which it could be tested”. (pg. 93) | Literary Device: Orwell introduces a simile, explaining how people were like ants. The civilians saw the little things but not the big things. Later on when records were turned into lies, the Party was reported to increase living conditions, because there weren’t any comparisons. Orwell means that the people could not see what the Party was doing, but rather had tunnel vision, dealing with only everyday issues. |
| 11. Quote: “His soul writhed with boredom, but for once he had had no impulse to shirk his evening at the Center. At the sight of the words *I love you* the desire to stay alive had welled up in him, and the taking of minor risks suddenly seemed stupid. It was not till twenty-three hours, when he was home and in bed—in the darkness, where you were safe even from the telescreen so long as you kept silent—that he was able to think continuously”. (pg. 109) | Purpose: This quote leads up to Winston’s meeting with Julia. When Winston notes that the words *I Love You* seem to warm him up. This means that he is still human in and out, and even though he’s been gone from “love” he still has his emotions. And the idea planted in his head causes the seed to grow, into a huge thought process that occurs in bed. |
| 12. Quote: “Perhaps at the other end of the instrument some small, beetle-like man was listening intently—listening to *that*. But by degrees the flood of music drove all speculations out of his mind. It was as though it were a kind of liquid stuff that poured all over him and got mixed up with the sunlight that filtered through the leaves. He stopped thinking and merely felt”. (pg. 124) | Explanation: Winston’s desire pushes out all other emotions in this passage. Orwell uses this passage to show the reader that Winston too needs a time to get all his emotions out. So he and Julia go into the forest and unleash their sexual urges. It turned into such a show, that Orwell writes that someone may have overhead what was happening. |
| 13. Quote: “Their first love-making had been simply an act of the will. But after the second time it was different. The smell of her hair, the taste of her mouth, the feeling of her skin seemed to have got inside him, or into the air all round him. She had become a physical necessity, something that he not only wanted but felt that he had a right to. When she said that she could not come, he had the feeling that she was cheating him”. (pg 139) | Purpose: Orwell put this passage in to tell the reader that both Winston and Julia have succumbed to their hedonistic desires. Despite the fact that its thoughtcrime to have sex, the two still embrace each other and treat each other like physical necessities. Although for Winston, Julia was more important than most things. He desired her. And when she couldn’t come, it just hurts him. This shows that Winston is heavily attached to Julia. |
| 14. Quote: “Syme had vanished. A morning came, and he was missing from work; a few thoughtless people commented on his absence. On the next day nobody mentioned him. On the third day Winston went into the vestibule of his Records Department to look at the notice board. One of the notices carried a printed list of the members of the Chess Committee, of whom Syme had been one”. (pg. 147) | Explanation: So the Party really did get Syme. But the Party did it in such a subtle manner, that not many people really know what happened. That’s how the Party operates. By doing things behind the curtain, and without taking risks. However, despite the fact that Syme “disappeared”, people knew he existed. This is shown when the Chess committee shows a printed list of members, and Syme was on that list. |
| 15. Quote: “Sometimes, too, they talked of engaging in active rebellion against the Party, but with no notion of how to take the first step. Even if the fabulous Brotherhood was a reality, there still remained the difficulty of finding one’s way into it. He told her of the strange intimacy that existed, or seemed to exist, between himself and O’Brien, and of the impulse he sometimes felt simply to walk into O’Brien’s presence, announce that he was the enemy of the Party, and demand his help”. (pg. 152) | Explanation: This explains that many members of the Brotherhood including Julia and Winston have contemplated rebellion against the Party. Unfortunately for them, it’s near impossible. What Winston wants to do is to try and acquire the brotherhood’s assistance, especially O’Brien, because he believes O’Brien exists, and that the two of them have met somewhere in the past. What Winston wants to do is meet O’Brien for once, and ask for his help. |
| 16. Quote: “In the ramifications of Party doctrine she had not the faintest interest. Whenever he began to talk of the principles of Ingsoc, doublethink, the mutability of the past and the denial of objective reality, and to use Newspeak words, she became bored and confused and said that she never paid any attention to that kind of thing. One knew that it was all rubbish, so why let oneself be worried by it”? (pg. 156) | Explanation: While Julia and Winston get along well “in the bed”, they really don’t share common interests. Winston’s job is to dwell in the past, while Julia’s job is in the Junior anti-sex league. Their jobs are completely different which means that their relationship is basically a friends with benefits kind. However, Julia had a good reason for it. Because she won’t last long in the real world, she doesn’t need to worry, or think about things like Ingsoc, or Newspeak, which Winston is interested in. |
| 17. Quote: “He was walking down the long corridor at the Ministry, and he was almost at the spot where Julia had slipped the note into his hand when he became aware that someone larger than himself was walking just behind him. The person, whoever it was, gave a small cough, evidently as a prelude to speaking. Winston stopped abruptly and turned. It was O’Brien”. (pg. 157) | Personal Link: If I was in this situation, it would be kind of creepy. If someone was walking behind me and carrying a shadow larger than me, I’d be quite concerned. Then again, if I was in Winston’s shoes, seeing O’Brien would be a relief. It would give me hope and allow me to try and establish a rebellion against the Party. Ultimately, this was good news for Winston. |
| 18. Quote: “From the moment when the machine first made its appearance it was clear to all thinking people that the need for human drudgery, and therefore to a great extent for human inequality, had disappeared. If the machine were used deliberately for that end, hunger, overwork, dirt, illiteracy, and disease could be eliminated within a few generations.” (pg. 189) | Personal Link: This is just crude of the Party. Why get rid of machines if they are so useful to you? It would rid you of most of your problems, and ensure better living conditions. Then again, it wouldn’t allow the Party to control literally everything. What I think of this quote is that, humans overtime have lost their sense of technology, and reverted back to doing things the traditional way, which means that efficiency has gone down. |
| 19. Quote: “Even the Catholic Church of the Middle Ages was tolerant by modern standards. Part of the reason for this was that in the past no government had the power to keep its citizens under constant surveillance. The invention of print, however, made it easier to manipulate public opinion, and the film and the radio carried the process further. With the development of television, and the technical advance which made it possible to receive and transmit simultaneously on the same instrument, private life came to an end”. (pg. 205) | Explanation: This quote represents the Party used to take control of people. They used inventions like print, radio, and television to manipulate people, and bring them under their control. Not only that, but eventually the Party came up with surveillance tools to watch over every single purpose. Hence why the quote says “private life came to an end”. |
| 20. Quote: “It was more natural to exist from moment to moment, accepting another ten minutes’ life even with the certainty that there was torture at the end of it.” (pg. 229) | Explanation: This quote is basically the mindset of Julia. Her mentality is to indulge herself in hedonistic desires and live in the moment, knowing the consequences. If there was something she could do to extend her enjoyment, she would do so. I think it’s crazy of her to indulge herself, knowing what could happen to her. |
| 21. Quote: “It was easier to confess everything and implicate everybody. Besides, in a sense it was all true. It was true that he had been the enemy of the Party, and in the eyes of the Party there was no distinction between the thought and the deed”. (pg. 242) | Personal Link: I think this quote appeals to me, mostly because it addresses the severity of crimes in society. Winston confesses that he had been the enemy of the Party, but even if he did so it wouldn’t have mattered. With the invention of telescreens, it was possible to catch the victim for thoughtcrime, whether or not he actually did the tangible crime. |
| 22. Quote: “The old feeling, that at the bottom it did not matter whether O’Brien was a friend or an enemy, had come back. O’Brien was a person who could be talked to. Perhaps one did not want to be loved so much as to be understood. O’Brien had tortured him to the edge of lunacy, and in a little while, it was certain, he would send him to his death. It made no difference. In some sense that went deeper than friendship, they were intimates; somewhere or other, although the actual words might never be spoken, there was a place where they could meet and talk.” (pg. 252) | Purpose: This quote serves to represent how crazy Winston had become with the rat cage torturing. He is looking back on everything that has happened between him and O’Brien. What this also shows about Winston, is that he fulfilled his dream of meeting O’Brien. Near the end of this excerpt, he explains that despite his pain and torturing, it was finally possible to meet and converse with O’Brien in a secret place. Ultimately, Orwell put this in to explain Winston’s last few minutes with O’Brien. |
| 23. Quote: “But always—do not forget this, Winston—always there will be the intoxication of power, constantly increasing and constantly growing subtler. Always, at every moment, there will be the thrill of victory, the sensation of trampling on an enemy who is helpless. If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face—forever.” (pg. 267) | Purpose: This entire quote explains the purpose of the Party. While Winston desires the past, and Julia longing for the present, O’Brien’s goal was to get rid of the present and past, to create an oppressive future. Furthermore, this quote gives a glimpse into the bleak world that is yet to come, a world where a government controls its people oppressively, a world with no free thinking people, and a world where humans, wouldn’t be human. |
| 24. Quote: “Only surrender, and everything else followed. It was like swimming against a current that swept you backwards however hard you struggled, and then suddenly deciding to turn round and go with the current instead of opposing it. Nothing had changed except your own attitude; the predestined thing happened in any case. He hardly knew why he had ever rebelled. Everything was easy, except--!” (pg. 278) | Explanation: In my eyes, the quote is summarizing Winston’s idea of creating a rebellion against the Party. Furthermore this quote explains Winston’s life as well. First, he desired to go against and end the Party, however due to O’Brien’s work, he now truly follows the Party. Not only that, but Winston also notes by the end of it all, he knew he would end up losing and working for the Party; he also questions his attempts at rebellion and why he even went against it. Ultimately by the end of it all, Winston is brainwashed into going with the Party, rather than against it. |
| 25. Quote: “He gazed up at the enormous face. Forty years it had taken him to learn what kind of smile was hidden beneath the dark mustache. O cruel, needless misunderstanding! O stubborn, self-willed exile from the loving breast! Two ginscented tears trickled down the sides of his nose. But it was all right, everything was all right, the struggle was finished. He had won the victory over himself. He loved Big Brother”. (pg. 297) | Personal Link: This is just a sad ending for me. Winston was brainwashed and “loves Big Brother”, while Julia was endlessly tortured and done with. But what strikes me in this quote is that Winston thinks that he won the battle over himself, that he no longer needed anything else but to follow Big Brother. In the end, he thinks of his efforts as a misunderstanding and concedes his loyalty to the Party, and Big Brother. If I was Winston, I would have no choice either, because no matter what happens, one man isn’t enough to go against a Totalitarian and corrupt government. |