

1984 Quotes Analysis Answer Key

(Sample Interpretations)

1. **"Big Brother is Watching You."**

- o Meaning: Citizens are under constant surveillance, with no privacy.
- o Theme: Represents the Party's control through fear and the elimination of individual freedom.

2. **"War is peace. Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is strength."**

- o Meaning: Contradictory slogans are used to confuse people and force them to accept illogical truths.
- o Theme: Demonstrates doublethink and the Party's manipulation of reality.

3. **"Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past."**

- o Meaning: By rewriting history, the Party can dictate people's understanding of reality and secure ongoing power.
- o Theme: Shows how control of knowledge and memory ensures political dominance.

4. **"If you want to keep a secret, you must also hide it from yourself."**

- o Meaning: Even private thoughts are dangerous, as the Party polices not only actions but inner beliefs.
- o Theme: Illustrates psychological control and the destruction of individual identity.

5. **"Until they become conscious they will never rebel, and until after they have rebelled they cannot become conscious."**

- o Meaning: The proles are trapped in a cycle where they lack awareness to resist, yet without resistance they will never gain awareness.
- o Theme: Highlights the hopelessness of revolution under the Party's oppression.