

Name _____



Chains of Corruption

Instructions: In *Abuse of Language, Abuse of Power*, Josef Pieper shows how twisting words eventually leads to the twisting of society. Work through the following steps to create **cause-and-effect chains**. Each cause starts with a corruption of language, and each effect shows how this distortion of truth spreads into abuse of power.

Complete the missing steps in each chain:

Chain 1

- Cause: Words are used as propaganda instead of communication.
- Effect: _____
- Final Outcome: Citizens accept false reality and surrender freedom.

Chain 2

- Cause: Speakers use slogans and clichés instead of truth.
- Effect: _____
- Final Outcome: Power is maintained through repetition, not reason.

Chain 3

- Cause: Euphemisms disguise harmful actions (e.g., "collateral damage").
- Effect: _____
- Final Outcome: Injustice is tolerated because it is hidden behind language.

Create Your Own Chain: Pick one modern example (social media, advertising, politics, or entertainment). Write a 3-step cause-and-effect chain showing how abuse of language there could result in abuse of power.