

## **1984 Discussion/Essay Questions**

### **Section III**

Choose five of the following questions to answer. Provide specific examples from the novel in each answer, and use correct grammar and mechanics. Incorporate specific quotes and page numbers for extra credit. **DO NOT SHARE ANSWERS WITH OTHER STUDENTS.** (1/2 page each)

1. Why do they treat the Party prisoners differently than the regular prisoners? Why won't they let Winston cover his eyes when Parsons goes for the lavatory pan? Why do they let the Party prisoners talk, but not exchange food?
2. Explain and analyze the scene between the starving man and the chinless man.
3. Why is Winston a "slow learner"? What does he need to do to learn more quickly?
4. Does O'Brien really believe the lies he creates? Discuss Inner Party members and doublethink.
5. Why is the Party more effective than the people who conducted the Inquisition and the Nazis? How are they the same and how are they different?
6. What does the fact that Winston's last shred of dignity has to do with Julia show the reader?
7. Does reality exist only in what is written down and in memories?
8. It seems possible to control what is written down. Is it possible to control the mind?
9. Why do they kill people after they have been "made sane"?