

## Worksheet 6 - Winston

### Review: Lecture 5: Key Themes

Complete this famous line by O'Brien: "the weariness of the cell is..."

### Recall: Lecture 6: Winston

**Answer these questions after watching the video lecture to check how much you remember.**

1. How old is Winston Smith?  
a) 29                      c) 39  
b) 35                      d) 45
2. Which Ministry does he work in?  
a) The Ministry of Truth                      c) Ministry of Peace  
b) The Ministry of Love                      d) Ministry of Plenty
3. Who does Winston have homicidal thoughts about?  
a) O'Brien              c) His mother  
b) Julia                  d) Emanuel Goldstein

### Analysis

4. Below are a selection of quotations from the lecture about Winston's anger. Annotate around each one, noting down what they reveal about Winston's character, and how psychologically damaged he is.

"His mother's memory tore at his heart because she had died loving him, when he was too young and selfish to love her in return, and because somehow, he did not remember how, she had sacrificed herself to a conception of loyalty that was private and unalterable." (Part 1, Chapter 3)

"He had an almost overwhelming temptation to shout a string of filthy words at the top of his voice, or to bang his head against the wall, to kick over the table and hurl the inkpot through the window – to do any violent or noisy or painful thing that might black out the memory that was tormenting him." (Part 1, Chapter 6)

"For a moment he was violently angry. During the month he had known her the nature of his desire for her had changed. At the beginning there had been little true sensuality to it." (Part 2, Chapter 4)

### Evaluation

5. Using your own notes and what you have learnt in the lecture, create a detailed essay plan for the following question:

"To what extent are we meant to feel sympathy for Winston Smith in 1984?"

## Glossary

- **Accomplice** – A person who helps another commit a crime.  
*e.g. She was being prosecuted as an accomplice in the murder.*
- **Homicidal** – Synonym for murderous.  
*e.g. The paranoid schizophrenic had homicidal thoughts.*
- **Disaffected** – Dissatisfied, especially with people and systems of authority.  
*e.g. The teenager felt disaffected with his school.*
- **Phobia** – An extreme and irrational fear or aversion to something.  
*e.g. Many people have a phobia about spiders.*
- **Everyman character** – A character in fiction who is meant to represent an everyday, ordinary person.  
*e.g. With the common surname Smith, it is clear that Winston is meant to be an Everyman character.*