

Chapter I

1. Explain all the ways in which Equality 7-2521 states that he is different from everyone else.

2. Explain the motto engraved over the portals on the Palace of the World Council. "We are one in all and all in one. There are no men but only the great WE, One, indivisible and forever."

3. Each night they recite a "prayer" before sleep. Is it actually a prayer? Yes or No.
EXPLAIN WHAT DOES OR DOESN'T MAKE IT A PRAYER. (In your opinion)

4. Why does the Council of Vocations assign Equality the job of street sweeper? Is it due to error, incompetence, or a more sinister motivation? Explain.

5. When does this novel take place—in the past, the present, or the future? How do you know?

6. How long do people live at the Home of Infants? _____
7. How long do people live at the Home of Students? _____
8. What is the Transgression of Preference? _____

9. Why do Equality's teachers disapprove of his quick mind?

10. What is the "curse" Equality 7-2521 frequently mentions?

11. In this chapter Equality 7-2521 states that it is very unusual for men to reach the age of 45.

12. Explain one or two possible reasons why life expectancy is so short for his society.

Chapter II

1. Reread the account of Liberty 5-3000 on page 38. What character traits are revealed in this brief description?

2. Find 3 or 4 examples of the ways in which this society tries to destroy each individual's mind (and self) by eliminating personal choices and suppressing people's desires and values.

3. Contrast Equality with the rest of the men living in this society (pg. 46). Specifically, how is he different?

4. Explain why fear is the prevalent emotion of this society? Why is this emotion utterly important to the "We"?

5. What word is Equality struggling to capture on page 49? _____

6. Why is mentioning this word the only crime punishable by death in this society? How does this word contradict the ideals of this society? What could its rediscovery/use possibly lead to? ANSWER ALL PARTS.

Chapters III-IV

1. What does Equality discover in this chapter?

2. Why is Equality frustrated with the Council of Scholars beliefs?

3. What is Equality's motivation for fighting against them?

4. What name does Liberty 5-3000 choose for Equality? _____
Why is this so appropriate for him?

5. When Liberty 5-3000 brings water to Equality and he drinks it, what emotion is he feeling? Why doesn't he understand what he's feeling?

Chapters V-VI

1. Describe the emotion that Equality is feeling at the beginning of Chapter 5.
2. Other than benefitting mankind what is Equality's main motivation in conducting his experiments?
3. Why is Equality so interested in seeing his own image at this point in the novel? What emotion is he feeling?
4. Discuss Equality's main motivation for creating his new invention.
5. Discuss why Equality is so interested in seeing his own image at this point in the novel. Discuss the emotion he is feeling.
6. What does Equality expect and then fear will happen if he shows his discovery to the Council?
7. Why have Prisoners never tried to escape from the Palace of Corrective Detention? How difficult would it be to escape? Why?