READING ACTIVITY PAGE 76

NAME:

COURSE: 3RD BGU "B"

1984

It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen. Winston Smith, his chin nuzzled into his breast in an effort to escape the vile wind, slipped quickly through the glass doors of Victory Mansions, though not quickly enough entering along with him though not quickly enough entering along with him

The hallway smelt of boiled cabbage and old rag mats. At one end of it a coloured poster, too large for indoor display, had been tacked to the wall. It depicted simply an enormous face, more than a metre wide: the face of a man of about forty-five, with a heavy black moustache and ruggedly handsome features. Winston made for the stairs. It was no use trying the lift. Even at the best of times it was seldom working, and at present the electric current was cut off during daylight hours. It was part of the economy drive in preparation for Hate Week. The flat was seven flights up, and Winston, who was thirty-nine and had a varicose ulcer above his right ankle, went slowly, resting several times on the way. On each landing, opposite the lift-shaft, the poster with the enormous face gazed from the wall. It was one of those pictures which are so contrived that the eyes follow you about when you move. BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU, the caption beneath it ran.

Inside the flat a fruity voice was reading out a list of figures which had something to do with the production of pig-iron. The voice came from an oblong metal plaque like a dulled mirror which formed part of the surface of the right-hand wall. Winston turned a switch and the voice sank somewhat, though the words were still distinguishable. The instrument (the telescreen, it was called) could be dimmed, but there was no way of shutting it off completely.

He moved over to the window: a smallish, frail figure, the meagreness of his body merely emphasized by the blue overalls ich were the uniform of the party.

Outside, even though the shut window-pane, the world looked cold. Down in the street little eddies of wind were whirling dust and torn paper into spirals, and though the sun was shining and the sky a harsh blue, there seemed to be no colour in anything, except the posters that were plastered everywhere. The black-moustachio'd face gazed down from every commanding corner. There was one on the house-front immediately opposite. BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU, the caption said, while the dark eyes looked deep into Winston's own. Down at street level another poster, torn at one corner, flapped fitfully in the wind, alternately covering and uncovering the single word INGSOC. In the far distance a helicopter skimmed down between the roofs, hovered for an instant like a bluebottle, and darted away again with a curving flight. It was the police patrol, snooping into people's windows. The patrols did not matter, however. Only the Thought Police mattered.

Behind Winston's back the voice from the telescreen was still babbling away about pig-iron and the overfulfilment of the Ninth Three-Year Plan. The telescreen received and transmitted simultaneously. Any sound that Winston made, above the level of a very low whisper, would be picked up by it, moreover, so long as me remained within the field of vision which the metal plaque commanded, he could be seen as well as heard. There was of Course no way of knowing whether you were being watched at any given moment. How often, or on what system, the Thought Police plugged in on any individual wire was guesswork. It was even Conceivable that they watched everybody all the time. But at any ate they could plug in your wire whenever they wanted to. You nad to live did live, from habit that became instinct - in the ssumption that every sound you made was overheard, and. except in darkness, every movement scrutinized.

1. Match the following terms with their meanings:

A. Victory Mansions	The ruling party's ideology
B. Telescreen	The oppressive government surveillance apparatus
C. Big Brother	The dilapidated apartment building where Winston lives
D. Thought Police	The leader figurehead of the party

2. Select the correct answer for each question

1. What does the caption "BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU" imply in the context of the text?
   - A. Big Brother is a caring figure.
   - B. Citizens should always watch out for their older siblings.
   - C. The government is closely monitoring the citizens.
   - D. The citizens should watch over their neighbors.

2. What is the purpose of the economy drive mentioned in the text?
   - A. To encourage citizens to save money
   - B. To prepare for a celebration called Hate Week
   - C. To reduce electricity consumption during daylight hours
   - D. To promote economic growth in the country

3. What is the significance of the posters plastered everywhere in the city?
   - A. To promote tourism
   - B. To warn citizens about the weather
   - C. To remind citizens of the government's constant surveillance
   - D. To advertise products and services

4. What is the purpose of the patrols mentioned in the text?
   - A. To enforce traffic laws
   - B. To maintain public order
   - C. To spy on citizens through their windows
   - D. To deliver mail and packages

5. What is the consequence of the constant surveillance described in the text?
   - A. Citizens feel safer and more protected.
   - B. Citizens are encouraged to express themselves freely.
   - C. Citizens live in fear and self-censorship.
   - D. Citizens become more trusting of their government.

LIVEWORKSHEETS