

# **Anthem Reading Questions CH 1-2**

As you are reading the novel, answer the questions from each chapter with specific detail. References to the page numbers where you found the information will be very helpful!

## Chapter 1

Dystopian fiction takes place in an imagined place where everything is bad or unpleasant – it is usually totalitarian or environmentally degraded. It is critical in the first chapter to understand the imagined place and its rules.

#### **Reading Questions**

- 1. What sin is the narrator committing in the first paragraph? Is this his greatest sin?
- 2. When the narrator uses the pronoun "we" who is he referring to?
- 3. To what profession does the narrator hope to be assigned, and what is his actual assignment? How does he feel about this?
- 4. Why is having friends considered a transgression?
- 5. What does Equality 7-2521 find behind the theater? Describe and suggest what this may actually be.

#### **Big Ideas**

- Describe the setting of the story, the rules of the society, and general details about how people proceed through life.
- 7. Who is the narrator and how is he in conflict with the society he lives in? Provide specific details about how he is different, what struggles he has at school, and why he is unhappy with his life.
- 8. Terminology: Define and explain the purpose of the following in this society. Provide both definition and link to text.
  - Transgression
  - Council of Vocations
  - The Great Rebirth
  - Transgression of Preference
  - Social Recreation
  - Unmentionable Times

# Chapter 2

1. Upon meeting Liberty 5-3000, what character traits are revealed on page 38?

- 2. How does Liberty 5-3000 complicate Equality 7-2521's life? Include specific details about the society and the conflicts.
- 3. What does Equality 7-2521 begin to notice about his society? Consider how he feels different from others and how he begins to see it as an outsider may.
- 4. What temptations does Equality 7-2521 battle in this chapter? How are his reactions to his transgressions changing as compared to the beginning of the novel?
- 5. Terminology: Define and explain the purpose of the following in this society. Provide both definition and link to text.
  - Palace of Mating
  - The Uncharted Forest
  - The Evil Ones
  - The Unspeakable Word

### Chapter 3

- 1. Identify and describe Equality 7-2521's discovery.
- 2. What are a few of the way this discovery could help his society?
- 3. What are three of the Council of Scholars' beliefs? What does Equality 7-2521 say about those beliefs?

### Chapter 4

1. How is the renaming of the characters significant? What are their new names and why?

### Chapter 5

- 1. What action is Equality 7-2521 considering and what are his true motivations?
- 2. Why is Equality 7-2521 so interested in seeing his own image at this point in the novel? What emotion does this link to?

### Chapter 6

- 1. Why was Equality 7-2521 in the Palace of Corrective Detention?
- 2. How did he escape, and what does this tell us about the society?