1984 Activity for Part Two: Chapters IV through VIII

Name(s):

Directions: Complete each question below as a pre-discussion activity. Follow the directions given for each question. See rubric at the bottom of the page.

1. How does one or more of the songs the prole woman sings in chapter 4 contribute to Winston's worries about renting the room from Mr. Charrington? In your response, quote one or more specific lines as you explain. Your response should be several well written sentences.

2. In Animal Farm, another work by Orwell, the famous line "All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others" applies to where Julia gets coffee, sugar, bread, tea, etc from and to O'Brien's apartment. How is this statement from Animal Farm shown in the hypocrisy in the Party? In several well written sentences, explain while referring to specifics from the novel.

3. A rat finds its way into their room above Charrington's shop. If this rat is symbolically significant, what might this rat signify about their place above the pawn shop? Speculate in one or more well written sentences. In your speculation, explain how the rat indicates this reading to you.

4. How does the line "*here comes a chopper to chop off your head*" in the rhyme (Winston starts saying the rhyme, and Julia gives more of the rhyme--including this last line) foreshadow that Winston more than Julia is right about their fate? Respond in one more or well written sentences that explain how Winston sees their future in contrast to Julia. *FYI: This line of the nursery rhyme is the conclusion to the ones about the church bells.*

5. Though our knowledge is limited, use evidence from chapter V to suggest that there is no real war--just a created enemy to keep people complacent towards the government by giving them an enemy to fear and hate? Refer to specific evidence as you respond in one or more well written sentences.

6. How has Julia being in Winston's life has improved his overall quality of life? Refer to specifics from the novel as you write one or more well written sentences.

7-9. Mr. Charrington shares with Winston bits of old nursery rhymes and songs. If we assume these songs have some significance, the lyrics of these songs may have a connection to what is occurring in the story.

Read each of the rhymes on your own. Then, use lyrics from the rhymes to suggest why Orwell references each rhyme: "a crumpled horn", "death of poor Cock Robin," or "four and twenty blackbirds."

Songs	**Copy and past selections of the lyrics that are significant**	**Explain in well written sentences what these lyrics hint at.**
"a crumpled horn",		
"death of poor Cock Robin,"		
"four and twenty blackbirds."		

10. If this novel has a hero--which is uncertain--who is that hero, Winston or Julia? You well written response should be several sentences. Though you are not required to quote, you should refer to specifics about each as you contrast them.

11. Though Winston did not directly kill his mother, how do his memories about his childhood-self reflect (or help us better understand) the dream about his mother that haunted him earlier in the novel? In your explanation, select details from the dream and the reality to use. Respond in several well written sentences.

Rubric:
-1 for each careless sentence level error
-1 for a consistent grammar issue that does not distract
-2 for failure to refer to specifics when required
-3 weak explanation that relies on the reader to make the connection
-9 No response/left blank
-5 Response substitutes simpler task or fails to fully address prompt, but a clear attempt is made