Anthem Chapter Questions

Directions: Use the book to answer the following questions based on the chapter the questions fall under.

Anthem Chapter 2 Questions

1. Whose name does Equality 7-2521 wish to write and speak?

Liberty 5-3000

2. What Home is Liberty 5-3000 apart of? Explain what her job in society is.

Home of the Peasants; She plants crops in the field

3. Describe the physical appearance of Liberty 5-3000.

Her eyes are “dark and hard and glowing”; her hair is as “golden as the sun” (Rand 39).

4. Before Liberty 5-3000 and Equality 7-2521 speak to one another, how do they communicate without talking?

Equality raises his hand as if he is shading his eyes from the sun, but really he is waving at her; she does the same.

5. Explain why it is a transgression for Liberty 5-3000 and Equality 7-2521 to speak to one another.

They are members of different houses (Liberty: the Home of the Peasants; Equality: the Home of the Street Sweepers) and it is a sin to speak to someone outside of your profession except at the Social Meetings.

6. What name does Equality 7-2521 give Liberty 5-3000 in his thoughts? Why does he rename her?

The Golden One; He renames her because he believes her to be different.

7. What age are women and men sent to the Palace of Mating?

Women are 18 and men are 20.

8. How does Liberty 5-3000 feel when Equality 7-2521 tells her she is beautiful?

She was shocked but also she felt “triumph” because his compliment fed her ego.
9. Explain why Equality 7-2521 suddenly feels hatred for all men when he thinks about Liberty 5-3000 going to the Palace of Mating. (think about the emotion he is feeling)

He experiences the emotion of jealous; he suddenly becomes jealous when he thinks of Liberty being with other men. Jealousy is a selfish emotion and would be forbidden in Equality’s society.


To rebuke or condemn (get on to); Equality is reprimanded because he is singing for no reason (he is singing because he is happy).

11. What leads Equality 7-2521 to believe that his brothers are not happy? Explain.

Equality notices that his brothers do not look happy based upon their body positions. He says their heads were “bowed” and their eyes looked “dull”; their backs were “haunched” and their muscles “drawn” (Rand 46). He comes to the conclusion that his brothers are living in fear.

12. Explain the flashback Equality 7-2521 has and what impact it had on his life.

Equality writes about a time when he saw the Transgressor of the Unspeakable Word burned alive for speaking a word that it is not allowed to be used in their society. He felt that he experienced a connection with the Transgressor, and that somehow, the Transgressor “passed the torch” to Equality to find the unspeakable word and protect it.

Chapter 3 Questions

13. What secret does Equality 7-2521 find that is unknown to all of his brothers?

He has discovered electricity (power).

14. What was Equality doing when he first noticed this power?

Equality was dissecting and examining a frog.

15. Equality 7-2521 has now shifted his thoughts from The Golden One to his discovery. Why do you think that is?

Equality has no become obsessed with his discovery and himself.

16. Name the things Equality has found in his tunnel.

“strange boxes with bars of metal inside, with many cords and strands of coils and metals”; “wires that let to strange little globes of glass on the walls” (Rand 54)
17. How has Equality 7-2521’s attitude about society and his own personal sins changed since the beginning of the book?

At the beginning of the novella, Equality felt guilty and sinful for thinking his own thoughts, but now he prides himself in thinking. He also felt that he deserved to be a Street Sweeper because he viewed it as punishment for his “sins”; however, now, he believes he should be a Scholar because of his discovery.

**Chapter 4 Questions**

18. State what name The Golden One gives to Equality 7-2521. What is the significance of this name?

The Unconquered; The Golden One is now starting to rebel in thinking her own thoughts just like Equality. Also, Equality is in a way “unconquered” by his government because he thinks and does on his own.

19. What words have men never said to women? Why?

“our dearest one”; because it is forbidden

20. What does The Golden One offer to The Unconquered?

a drink of water from her hands

21. Why does this interaction startle both of them?

because they touch for the first time

**Chapter 5 Questions**

22. What has Equality 7-2521 created? How does he feel about his creation?

light…a lightbulb; he believes it will be his redemption and allow him to enter into the Home of the Scholars.

23. Now that Equality has made this great discovery, he no longer feels that he should sweep the streets. Why do you think he suddenly feels like he is wasting his time as a street sweeper?

He has become arrogant and thinks he is better than street sweepers because he is smarter.

24. Who does Equality plan to show his creation to? How does he think this group will react to his creation?

The World Council; he thinks they will praise him and allow him to enter into the Home of the Scholars.
25. Explain the following simile: “For this wire is as a part of our body, as a vein torn from us, flowing with our blood.” (Rand 61)

Comparing the wires in his creation to the veins and blood in his body; he is saying that this invention is apart of him—it is his creation. This shows us how strongly he feels about his creation.

26. Why do you think Equality suddenly has a desire to know what he looks like?

Equality is starting to gain more independence, thinking of himself more. He becomes curious about himself because he is becoming more and more self-centered.

Chapter 6 Questions

27. Explain why Equality is not able to write in his journal for thirty days.

He was locked in the cellar.


Because he did not betray the light—he did not tell the government about his secret creation.

29. Why is it so easy for Equality to escape the Palace of Corrective Detention?

Because no one has ever tried to escape, so it was not hard to get out. Strict security was not needed because everyone obeyed orders.

30. Equality 7-2521 feels that when he tells the World Council about his discovery he will no longer be an outcast. What does this term, outcast, mean?

Outcast means not apart of a group or different from a group.

Chapter 7 Questions

31. What is being compared in the following metaphor?

“We have no bed now, save the moss, and no future, save the beasts.” (Rand 68)

A bed and moss; future and beasts

32. How does the World Council react to Equality’s discovery?

They are appalled; they think it should be destroyed.
33. “‘Yes,’ said Collective 0-0009, ‘we have much to say to a wretch who have broken all the laws and who boast of their infamy....’” (Rand 71)

    Define the bolded terms using a dictionary.

    **wretch**: a despicable and contemptible person

    **infamy**: the state of being known for some bad quality or deed

34. The Council is horrified that Equality 7-2521 would think that he is greater than them; this means, they consider themselves to be great than Equality 7-2521, the street sweeper. What is ironic about this considering the principles of their society? (irony: how the situation is different than what it is supposed to be)

    Because everyone is supposed to be equal but the Council considers themselves to be better than Equality, a Street Sweeper.

35. Explain why the Council determines that Equality’s box is useless.

    Because they believe it will cause the candle to be obsolete, and they spent years and years on debating on whether or not the candle was needed. They believe if the candle is not needed, factories will close and people will lose their jobs.

36. **T or F**: Equality 7-2521 allows the Council to destroy his box. **FALSE**; he grabs it and runs.

37. Where does Equality 7-2521 escape to?

    The Uncharted Forest

38. Describe the setting of the Uncharted Forest. (use specific words and phrases from the text) (Rand 75)

    The trees were taller than any Equality had ever seen.

39. Explain why Equality chooses to go into the Uncharted Forest even though he knows it is dangerous.

    Because he knew the men would not follow him into the forest because it is dangerous.

40. **T or F**: Equality 7-2521 created his box for the good of his brothers.

41. Explain the following simile: “Only the glass box in our arms is like a living heat that gives us strength.” (Rand 76)

    He is saying that the light is the only thing that is giving him hope and strength
42. What conclusion does Equality come to about The Golden One?

He has completely forgotten about her until now; he determines that she will be better off without him.