1984 Review Questions--Key

Part 2

1. How does Winston react to the note from Julia? Before he reads it? After?
   At first, he thinks that it is a message from the thought police or the brotherhood. The first is more likely because he fears and hates Julia.
   After reading, his primary concern is how to arrange a meeting; he believes Julia is genuine in her affections because he saw the look of fear on her face.

2. What does Winston think when he sees the place Julia selects for their rendezvous?
   He relates it to the Golden Country. In fact, it is such a close replica that he asks her about a stream that he expects to see nearby.

3. What does Winston mean when he says that he loves Julia all the more because she has had many previous sexual encounters?
   Since the Party disapproves of sex as an act of pleasure, Julia's many past lovers indicate a rebellious nature. He hopes that her promiscuity is a sign of rot from within the Party.

4. What is the significance of the song the woman in the courtyard sings while Winston waits for Julia?
   The songs are produced by the Party and are supposed to be nonsense, but this one seems to have special meaning to Winston. The "hopeless fancy" that the woman sings of is exactly Winston's situation. His private rebellion with Julia is a passing fancy and ultimately unable to create any real change.

5. How does Winston react to the rat that Julia mentions?
   He freaks out. The rat, a symbol of the Party, terrifies him.

6. Why does Winston say that Julia is a rebel only from the waist down?
   She cares nothing of the ideas behind Winston's rebellion; she only cares about the gratification of her own pleasures.

7. What finally convinces Winston that O'Brien is a member of the Brotherhood?
   O'Brien makes a reference to the unperson "Syme" and gives Winston his address. These are very clever actions because any spies can see them as innocent while Winston reads them as signs of the Brotherhood.

8. What does Winston realize about love and loyalty as a result of his dream about the paperweight?
   In his dream, everyone lives inside the paperweight. He remembers his mother's love and self-sacrifice for her children. He realizes that the nobler human emotions are gone—that the only love and loyalty that exists anymore are to the Party.
   Winston concludes that he and the other Party members have been dehumanized and the only hope lies in becoming human again—becoming more like the Proles. He and Julia promise never to compromise their love for one another. Humanity is victory over the Party.

9. Why do Winston and Julia visit O'Brien at his apartment?
   They believe they will be joining the Brotherhood.

10. How does O'Brien test them? Why is this test ironic?
    He asks them what they would be willing to do for the Brotherhood—lie, cheat, steal, kill, etc. These are the very acts that Winston abhors in the Party.
11. Why are Winston and Julia convinced, after their meeting with O'Brien, that he is a member of the secret Brotherhood?

   He gives them the book, *The Theory and Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism.* He also is able to recite the rhyme for Winston, which Winston perceives to be the secret handshake of the Brotherhood.

12. Summarize the elements of symbolism and irony in the arrest scene.

   The room is supposedly their sanctuary, but it has been a trap the entire time. Winston's paperweight is smashed to pieces just like his dreams. Charrington, who Winston believed to be harmless, is revealed to be a member of the Thought Police. The rhyme is not a sign of the Brotherhood but an omen of death.