

TITLE

The Kafka Trap

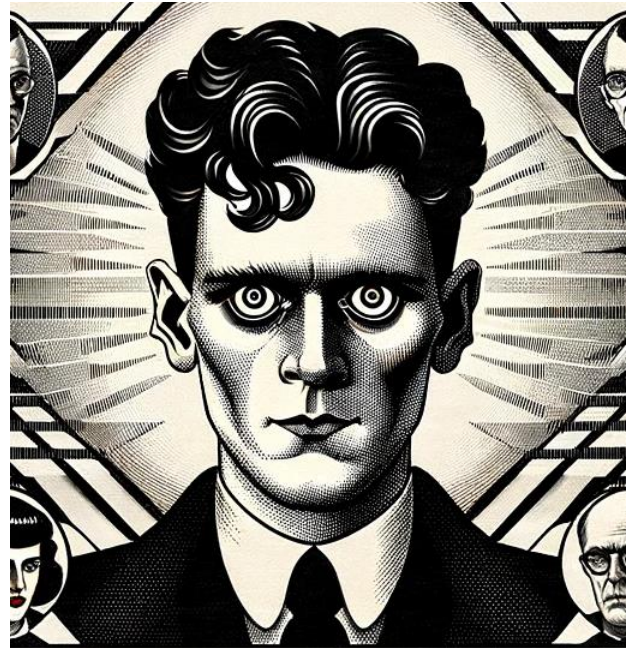
PROJECT

TIME DIVE

www.nausika.eu/timedive



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PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

Storyline for the facilitator (pg. 3)

A4, 1 copy, one-sided, black and white.

Questionnaire, reports, praise (pg. 4 – 9)

A4, 5 copies, double-sided, in color.

Reeducation cards, passports, nametags, memories, cell reports, “a list” (pg. 10 - 41)

A4, 1 copy, double-sided, in color.

Please note: some pages in this section (memories, “a list”) don’t have a second page. To make it possible to print the whole section at once using double-sided print, the second sides of those pages have been left blank.



AUTHORS

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www.nausika.eu/timedive

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STORYLINE

In the world we live in The Party controls everything, making life very difficult and scary for everyone. People are given random jobs and have to follow a lot of confusing and always changing rules. The Party has also changed history, so no one is sure what's really true anymore. This has made everyone afraid to say what they think.

You are part of a group of five people who show up to work one day, only to find out your position no longer exists. You find a note saying, "You have been terminated," which makes you feel very hopeless. Without a job your life has little purpose. What will the others say? But just when you think there's no way out of this tough situation, you find a ray of hope in a newspaper ad. It's for a job interview, but the ad is mysterious. It simply says, "Come for a job interview." So, that's where you are headed now.



Answer these questions to the best of your ability.

Who are you:

- 1: Animal (Please refer to side B)
- 2: Not animal (Please refer to side B)
- 3: Other (Please refer to side B)
- 4: Not other (!!!!! Do NOT refer to side B !!!!!)

*/Any erroneous and/ or falsified data will subject you to prosecution in the court of law/

If not, who are you?

-Side A-

Is it true that you are who you say you are? Y/N

You are disgusting. Y/Y

Have you lied to us? Y/N

Have you lied to us? Y/N

Have you lied to us? Y/N

Will you lie to us? Y/N

We believe you have lied to us. Does it matter whether you really lied to us?
Y/N

Have you renounced your god? Y/N

Αφήνοντας αυτή την απάντηση κενή, παραδέχομαι εγκλήματα κατά του κράτους.

If you were a cabbage, how would you contribute to the glorious cause of the
proletariat harvest?

-Side A-



REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

I, report that I feel is a parasite.

I do so with full awareness
Signed



REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

I, report that is accused of the following crime against
the Party:

I do so with full awareness
Signed



REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

I, state here that is a person of pure heart that only
wishes the best for the Party,

I do so with full awareness
Signed

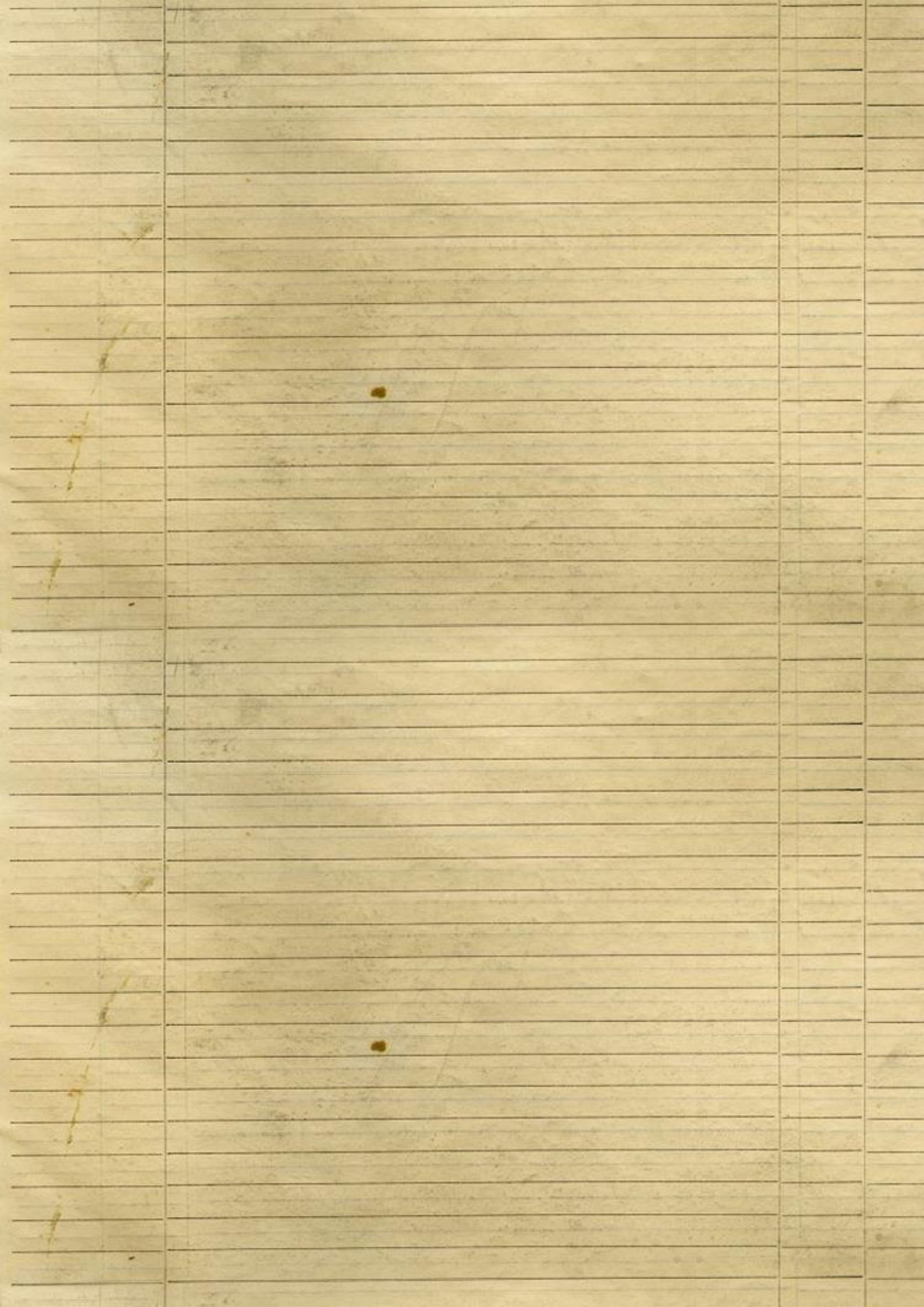


REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

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in Prague, date:

I, report that is accused of the following crime against
the Party:

I do so with full awareness
Signed





YOU HAVE BEEN RE-EDUCATED!

For the rest of the ROUND:

- Do NOT make eye contact with anyone
- Only speak well about the Party, even in private

In the next round (after you've spent the night in your cell), you can gradually return to normal. But beware: Being re-educated for the second time would be PERMANENT.



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YOU HAVE BEEN BRAINWASHED!

For the rest of the GAME:

- Do NOT make eye contact, only look down_____ - Do NOT show any positive emotion
- Only praise the Party, even in private

This effect is PERMANENT.



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This effect is PERMANENT.





Name: C.

Age: 61

Occupation: Post Office Clerk

ID: 450018Fd-008

All a life of slouching over a post office counter has brought you is chronic back pain. It had become almost insufferable several years ago, but you must admit it got better since you were able to obtain some under the counter painkillers.

Still, you find it hard to fall asleep, after passing sleepless nights by secretly opening and reading love letters that pass through your office. One such chain of correspondence has caught your interest lately - a pair of lovers who have never met in person and who have to keep their relationship a secret. They even have a secret phrase to recognize each other: "Don't let the bed bugs bite."



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Name: D.

Age: 32

Occupation: Doctor

ID: 450013Fd-003

You have sacrificed much for your patients, working long shifts in spite of the constant power failures. At times, your efforts to help may have gone too far... but that's a distant memory now.

There is one bright spot in your life. For over a year now, you have been in correspondence with a special someone. You are both madly in love, you are sure of it - and yet, for undisclosed reasons, this person insists both of you keep your identities secret.

In the last letter, your beloved promised to make some changes so that soon, the two of you will be able to meet. Until then, you only recognize each other by the phrase "don't let the bedbugs bite" - that's how you always know the letters are really from your secret lover.



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Name: P.

Age: 34

Occupation: Secret Police

ID: 450014Fd-004

As a member of the secret police, you lead a lonely life. No friends or loved ones, with one exception: for a year, you've been in correspondence with a special someone. All you know is that they're a doctor, and that you are in love. But your job doesn't allow for relationships - if your letters were found, you'd be arrested. And so, both of you keep your identities secret.

Unlike everyone else at the interview, you haven't *really* been fired - you just say that, so the others don't know what you do. But you still desperately want the new job, because once you're not with the secret police anymore, you will be free to meet your lover. Until then, you only recognize each other by the phrase "don't let the bedbugs bite" - that's how you always know the letters are really from your beloved.



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Name: T.

Age: 57

Occupation: Teacher

ID: 450016Fd-006

Ever since your mother passed away, you have been left alone in a cold apartment littered with empty wine bottles. You may not be the best person, but you have always been a good teacher, supporting your students whenever you were sober enough not to need support yourself.

As you arrive at the interview, you feel like two of the faces you see there are slightly familiar - have you met P. and W. somewhere? Your memory isn't what it used to be.



Name: T.

Age: 57

Occupation: Teacher

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Name: W.

Age: 34

Occupation: Electrician

ID: 450015Fd-005

You never wanted to become an electrician, but your dreams of an academic career were squashed at an early age. Your father was an intellectual and a dissident, but all he was allowed to do under the Party's rule was work at a post office. And then, he was fired even from that - there was no way you would be accepted to university with this kind of background, and the one opportunity you got - an acceptance exam you tried to pass in secondary school - ended with a failure.

As you arrive at the job interview, you recognize two people: P., your best friend from school, and T., your favorite teacher from that time, who was always kind to you in spite of your poor academic prospects.



Name: W.

Age: 34

Occupation: Electrician

ID: 450015Fd-005

You never wanted to become an electrician, but your dreams of an academic career were squashed at an early age. Your father was an intellectual and a dissident, but all he was allowed to do under the Party's rule was work at a post office. And then, he was fired even from that - there was no way you would be accepted to university with this kind of background, and the one opportunity you got - an acceptance exam you tried to pass in secondary school - ended with a failure.

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P.

Age: 34

Police Officer



D.

Age: 32

Doctor



W.

Age: 34

Electrician



T.

Age: 57

Teacher



C.

Age: 61

Post Office Clerk





P.

Age: 34

Police Officer



D.

Age: 32

Doctor



W.

Age: 34

Electrician



T.

Age: 57

Teacher



C.

Age: 61

Post Office Clerk



In the cold cell, you search your conscience: could it be you they are looking for? Are you guilty? But guilty of what? In the middle of the night, old memories resurface:

First, you remember a face. There was a person living in your building once, right next door to you. You never spoke, but you remember now: it was P! The two of you were neighbors for a while.

Then, an older memory: You were a coward once. You did not admit your mistake at work, and another person was fired instead of you. Before the regime change, this man was a prominent intellectual, but under the party's rule the only job he could find was at the post office - and then your cowardice got him sacked even from that. Could this be your crime?



C 1

Once again, you spend the night searching your memory.

Maybe the supposed crime is connected to your condition? When your back pain got really bad, you obtained medicine you were not supposed to, despite the lack of drugs that year. That young doctor gave it to you - you remember her now! It was "D."

Is this what you are guilty of? Or are you still forgetting something else you did?



C 2

In the cold cell, you search your conscience: could it be you they are looking for? Are you guilty? But guilty of what? In the middle of the night, old memories resurface:

Once, you helped a post office clerk suffering from back pain get under the counter painkillers. You remember their face now... was that C?

Does this make you guilty? Or did you do something else entirely?



D 1

Once again, you spend the night searching your memory.

Once, you helped an old dying woman end her suffering. You are a secret believer in euthanasia... is that your crime?

Is this what you are guilty of? Or are you still forgetting something else you did?



D 2

In the cold cell, you search your conscience: could it be you they are looking for? Are you guilty? But guilty of what? In the middle of the night, old memories resurface:

You work for the Secret Service, and you've helped with a lot of cases. Usually those were severe crimes. But once you were asked to spy on your neighbors speaking badly about The Party. Based on your report, the neighbor's spouse was later arrested. You remember the neighbor now - it was C. whose partner you helped put in jail! You hope C. won't recognize you as well...

Does this make you guilty? Or did you do something else entirely?



P 1

Once again, you spend the night searching your memory.

Once, you let some young rebels get away with defacing government property. It was an act of compassion, but maybe that's your crime?

Is this what you are guilty of? Or are you still forgetting something else you did?



P 2

In the cold cell, you search your conscience: could it be you they are looking for? Are you guilty? But guilty of what? In the middle of the night, old memories resurface:

There was this one time - you had too much to drink (as you often do) and while driving home, you ran over... *something*... you think? You are sure it was just an animal. Yes, definitely. It must have been.

Does this make you guilty? Or did you do something else entirely?



T 1

Once again, you spend the night searching your memory.

When you were still a young teacher, you had two students. You remember their faces now: it was P. and W.! W. was a brilliant student, but didn't stand a chance in academia due to family background. So, when both students did an exam to apply for university, you made sure to give P. extra points and take W.'s place. You believed it was the best for both of them at the time...

Is this what you are guilty of? Or are you still forgetting something else you did?



T 2

In the cold cell, you search your conscience: could it be you they are looking for? Are you guilty? But guilty of what? In the middle of the night, memories resurface:

You are not very good at your job. You just don't care that much. And so, there are occasional blackouts in the hospital. Did your lousiness cause anything bad? Might that be a serious crime?

Does this make you guilty? Or did you do something else entirely?



W 1

Once again, you spend the night searching your memory.

You have never wanted to be an electrician. Your father was an intellectual and you wanted to study as well. But you just... couldn't. Is it your family history that is the problem? You always used it as an excuse.

Is this what you are guilty of? Or are you still forgetting something else you did?



W 2



PRAISE OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

Undercover officer known as P. spent weeks recording neighbors. This evidence led to the arrest of C.'s spouse for forbidden speech against the Party. P. is a person of pure heart.

C 3

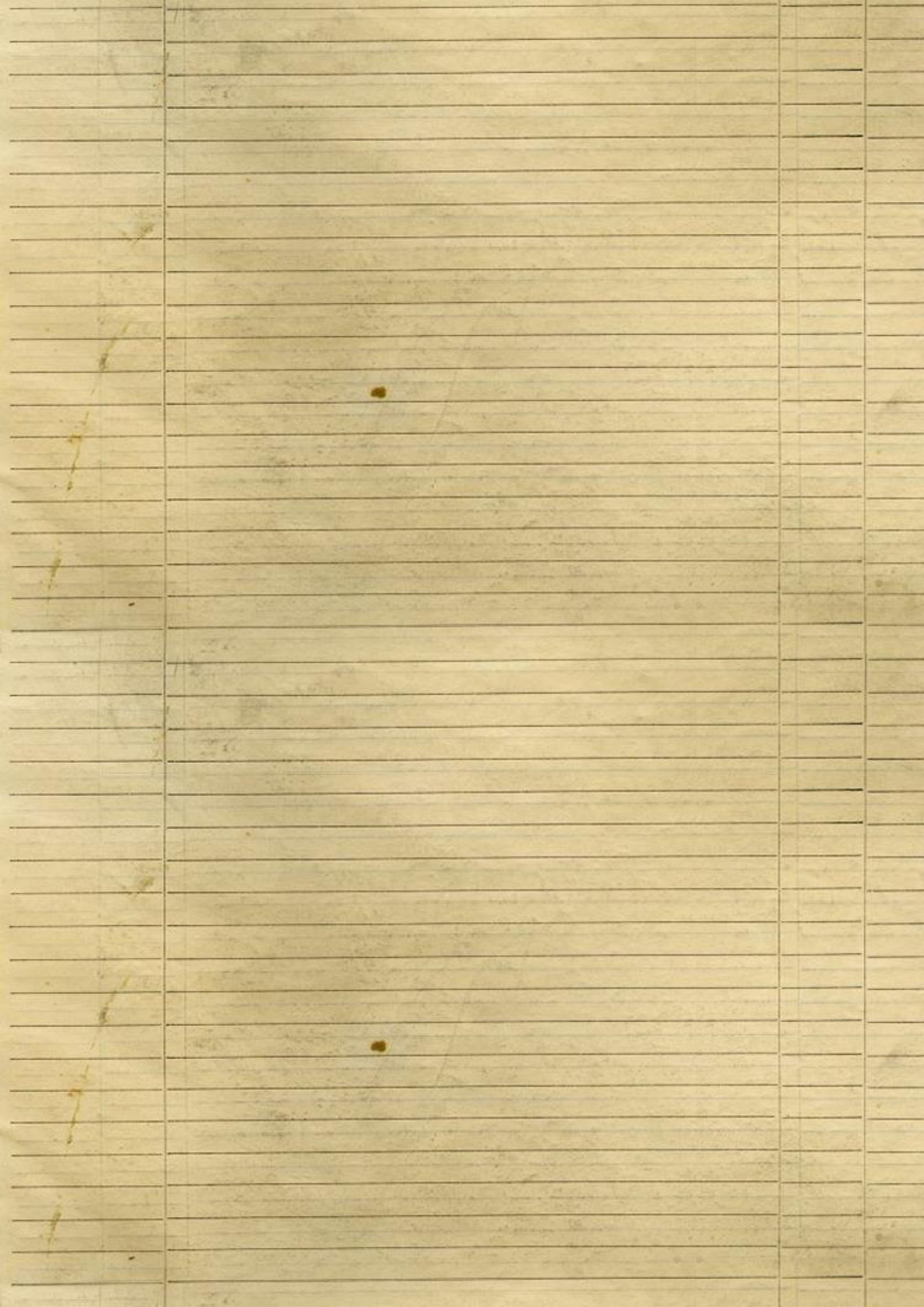


REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

The electrician known as W., who works for a local hospital, is a lousy worker. He has been responsible for many electricity failures in the hospital.

D 3





REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

The teacher known as T., a notorious drunk driver, once ran over a police dog and quickly drove away. The animal died on the spot.

P 3

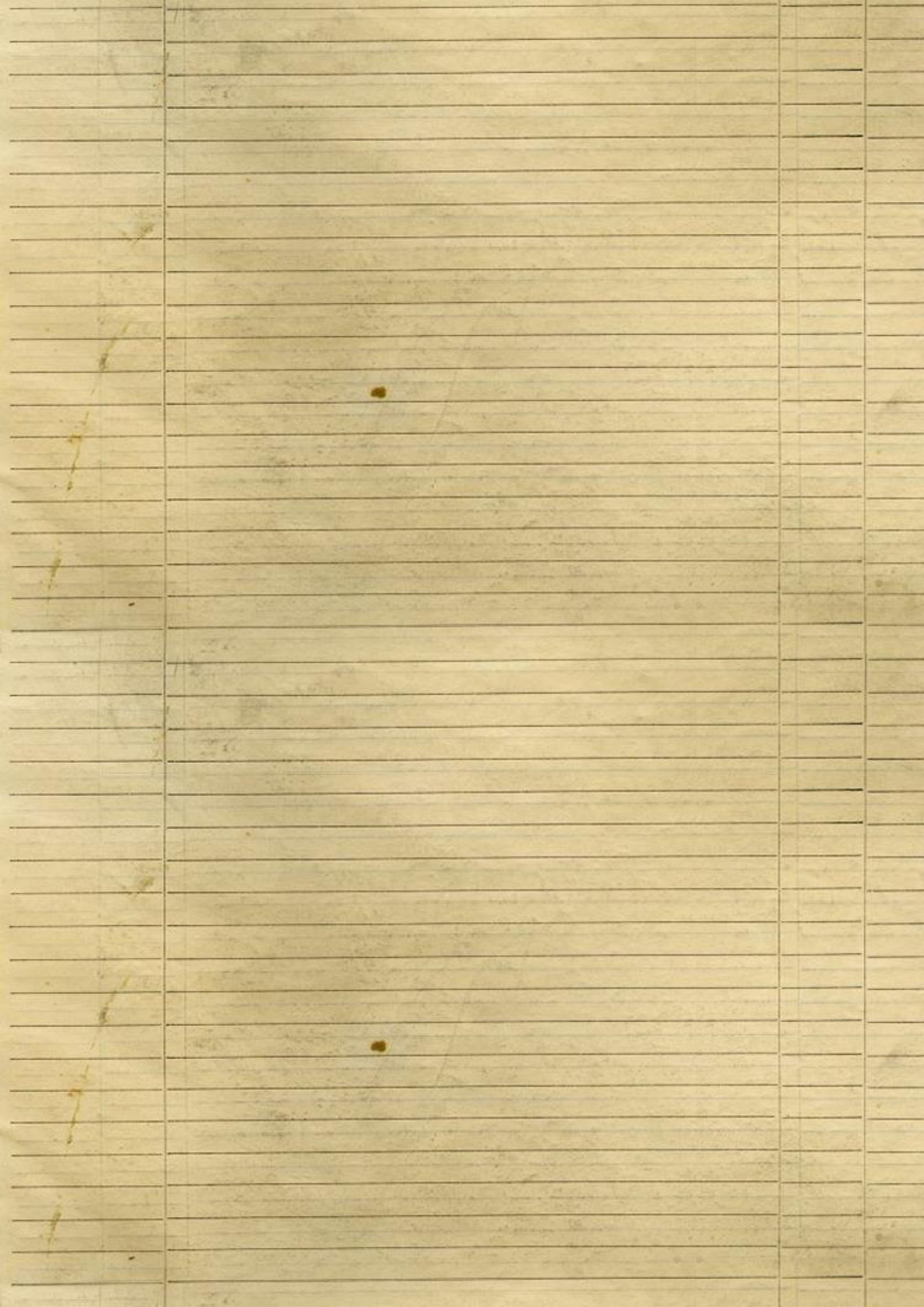


REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

We have evidence that the doctor known as D. helped a sick old woman, the mother of T., commit assisted suicide. This highly immoral act is against Party law and proves D.'s anti-social disposition.

T 3





PRAISE OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

The teacher known as T. gave his student, P., a better grade than to the worker known as W., although W. had scored better in The Exam. This was a wise decision given that W. was a child of a parasite and therefore unfit for higher education. T. is a person of pure heart, and we praise their devotion to The Party.

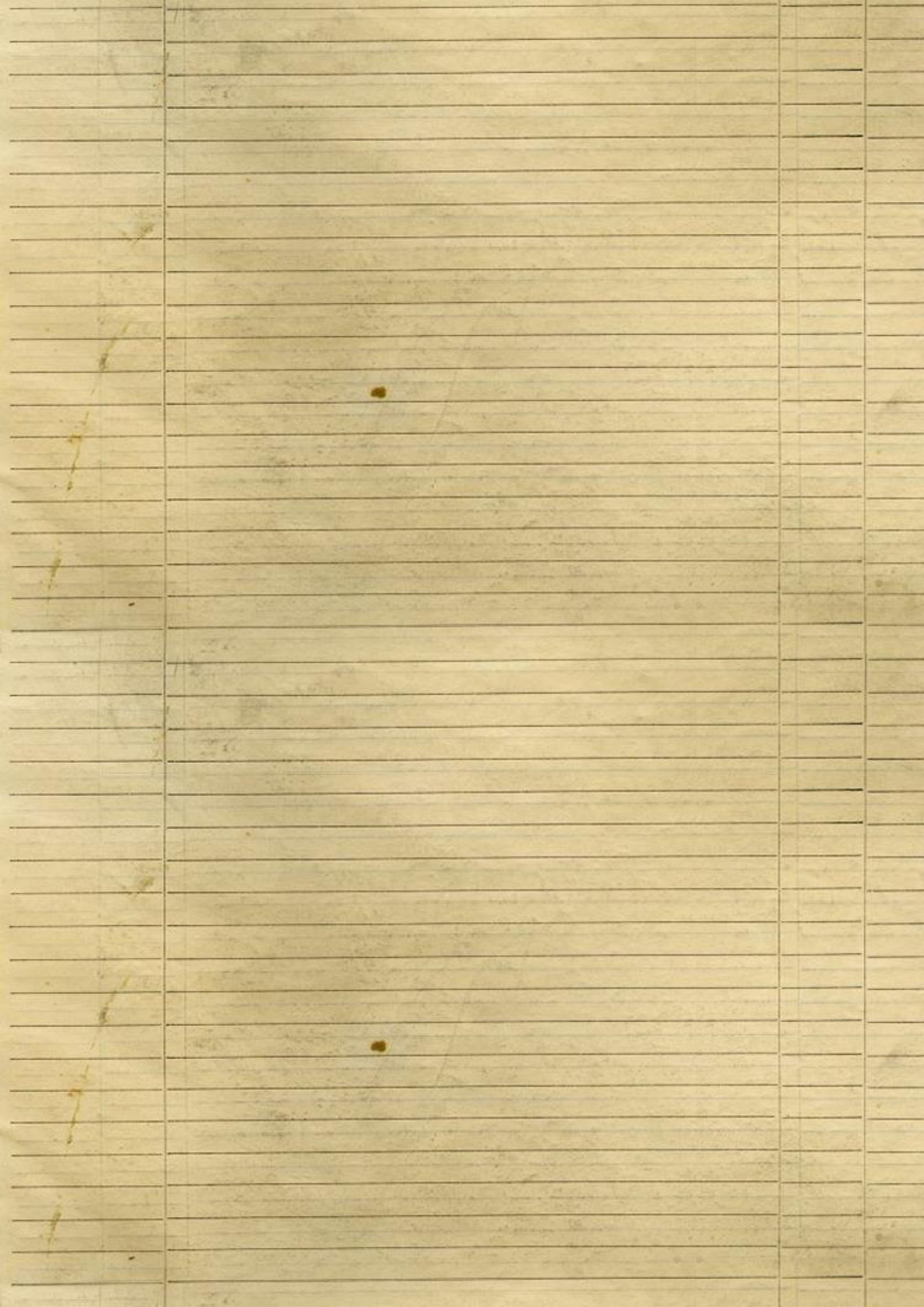
W 3



REPORT OF AN ALERT CITIZEN

to the State Security office
in Prague, date:

The post office clerk, C., once made a mistake at work. They didn't confess to the mistake even when another worker, W.'s father, was blamed for it. This led to W's father being fired - a good outcome, since the old man was a known parasite.



A LIST

eavesdropping

negligence

killing

substance abuse

workplace

endangerment

slander

appropriation

