

English Literature – Summer Project

Exploring Orwell

Orwellian - used to describe a political system in which the government tries to control every part of people's lives.

TASK: Read 1984 by George Orwell and complete the following tasks:

In September we will be discussing Orwell's writing, debating their place in the cannon of English Literature and relevance in modern society.

Task: Research the following areas:

- Orwell's life and political views
- Allegory
- Censorship of literature
- Dystopian genre

Task: Create a mindmap of key themes within the novel

Challenge – link to other modern literature you may have read

Task: Questions – to be answered in detail with textual references. Each response should be in full paragraph format, with quotes to support ideas.

1. Why is the war in 1984 never ending?
2. Is Julia a spy working with the Thought Police?
3. Why does O'Brien pretend to be part of the Brotherhood?
4. How does the Party maintain its power?
5. What does the slogan "Ignorance Is Strength" mean?
6. How is 1984 still relevant today?

Please hand your summer project in on the first week back to school.

