



evropský  
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EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,  
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání  
pro konkurenceschopnost



GYMNÁZIUM  
PRACHATICE

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

## STUDENT'S WORKSHEET

### SOME OUTSTANDING BRITISH WRITERS

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#### George Orwell (1903 – 1950)

##### Task One:

Here are some facts about George Orwell's life. Guess what they are connected with.

*Burma*

*Paris*

*Spanish Civil War*

*England*

*Eric Blair*

*Bengal India*

*Police force*

*Tuberculosis*

*Living in poverty*

*Journalist*

*Oxford*

##### Task Two:

**Read the text.**

Orwell was an English novelist and journalist. His style of writing is marked by clarity, intelligence and wit. In his works he always emphasized social injustice and opposition to totalitarianism. Orwell wrote literary criticism, poetry, fiction and polemical journalism. He is best known for the dystopian novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949) and the allegorical novella *Animal Farm* (1945), which together have sold more copies than any two books by any other 20th-century author. In 2008, *The Times* ranked him second on a list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945". Orwell's work continues to influence popular and political culture, and the term *Orwellian* — descriptive of totalitarian or authoritarian social practices — has entered the language together with several of his neologisms, including Cold War, doublethink, thought crime, Big Brother and thought police.

**Go back to the questions. Are you able to answer now?**

**Can you explain the meaning of Orwell's neologisms? Which book do they mostly come from?**

**Do you know what is the "Newspeak"?**



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### **Task Three**

#### **1. Read the information about Orwell's novel 1984.**

*1984*, one of Orwell's best-crafted novels, remains one of the most powerful warnings ever issued against the dangers of a totalitarian society.

*1984* is one of the most famous novels of the negative utopian, or dystopian, genre. Unlike a utopian novel, in which the writer aims to portray the perfect human society, a novel of negative utopia does the exact opposite: it shows the worst human society imaginable, in an effort to convince readers to avoid any path that might lead toward such societal degradation.

It's the year 1984 and the world is after the global atomic war. In Oceania, the province of Airstrip One, one of the world's three superstates, the Party tries to control everything, even thought and emotion of all the people. This is a totalitarian world.

#### **2. The book is divided into three parts. Read the summary and put the parts into the correct order according to the plot of the novel.**

##### **A. Part \_\_\_\_\_**

This part deals with the development of Winston's love to Julia, someone with whom he can share his private emotions. For a short time they create a small world of feeling for themselves. However, they are betrayed. O'Brien, whom Winston thought was a rebel like himself, is in reality a chief inquisitor of the Inner Party.

##### **B. Part \_\_\_\_\_**

Winston and Julia are captured, imprisoned, punished, interrogated, tortured, and re-educated. Finally they capitulate and betray each other. Winston is released. He looks forward to the bullet; they will kill him with some day. Now he realises how pointless it was to resist. Winston loves Big Brother.

##### **C. Part \_\_\_\_\_**

Winston develops his unorthodox thoughts and he writes them in his diary. However, keeping such a book is not only forbidden, but also very dangerous. Having a diary is a crime, which may even be punished by death. Everybody is watched by Big Brother via so-called telescreens, which are in each room, showing propaganda and political pamphlets.

#### **3. What do you remember about 1984? Cover the texts and answer the questions:**

**1. What genre is the novel considered to be?**

**2. Who are the main characters?**

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3. What motto expresses the fact that people of Oceania are spied all the time?

4. Complete the last of the three Party slogans:

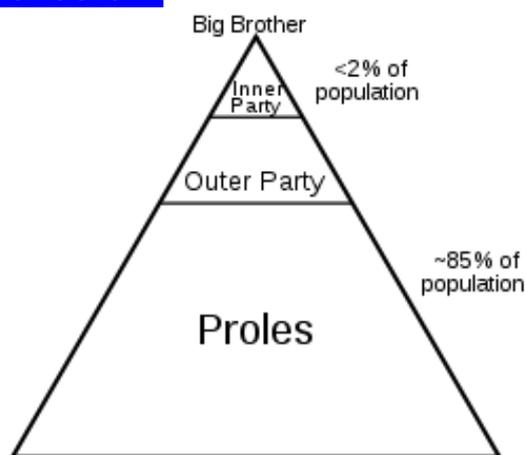
*War is peace*

*Freedom is slavery*

*Ignorance is \_\_\_\_\_*

5. Does the book have a happy end?

6. What does the scheme show?



**Evaluation:**

How many correct answers have you had in the previous exercises?

- 100 – 80% ..... Excellent 👍
- 80 – 70% ..... Very good 😊
- 70 – 50% ..... Good 😐
- 50 – 30% ..... Average 😞
- Less than 30% ..... Poor 🙄

How much do you remember about Orwell's life and his novel 1984?

Tick☑:

I remember a lot

I need some revision