



## English IV Summer Reading Assignment

**TEXT: 1984 BY GEORGE ORWELL**

Materials Needed:

One one-subject spirals (70 pages)

ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING FORMAT:

Divide the pages in your spiral into two sections and follow the directions below. The two sections will consist of the following: a dialectical journal and an essay. You may designate each section by using a tab or folding a page to serve as a divider. **THE FIRST PAGE OF EACH SPIRAL SHOULD BE A TITLE PAGE. INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND THE TITLE AND AUTHOR OF THE NOVEL.**

### THE DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

Each time that you read from your novel, be sure to write your thoughts and comments about what you read in your journal. Note the date, the chapter and the page # before making an entry. Note literary devices and, words you don't understand, ideas you don't understand, ideas you DO understand, any relation of the events to current events or to your life, etc.

Following is an example of how your dialectical journal pages should look.

#### Dialectical Journal

Title of Book

Date	Chap.	Quotation	Page	Comment
6/7	2	"She moved like a lioness through the tall weeds."	10	vivid simile - I can picture what she looks like as she is walking.
		<i>Fred slips gloves into pocket.</i>	11	What is he up to? Why all the sneaky things? I don't really like him.
		"...t he dark aspect of his look that silenced her..."	15	The diction is very important here. It creates a menacing tone.
		<i>John Smith</i>	21	I wonder why he moved to this town? He seems more like a city person.
		<i>white butterflies</i>	25	This is the third time I've seen that. Is it symbolic?

A dialectical journal shows your own thoughts and ideas about the things you read in the novel. Feel free to write what you really think. Dialectic is a form of engaged argumentation—this means your journal should demonstrate an **active** interaction with the text as you read. Respond to it. Question it. Be involved in the story, not just a passive recipient. Complete sentences are not necessary here, but be certain to write enough so that you can understand your own notes when you need to refer to them for the essay or for class discussion. You should be able to come up with a minimum of five entries per chapter. It is recommended that you note important character details as well when major characters are introduced.

### THE ESSAY

Below you will find an essay prompt for the novel. You need approximately 10 pages in your notebook for writing the essay. The first draft of the essay should be an outline detailing thesis, major claims, and evidence to be used in support of these claims. Depending on the depth of your claims and the evidence needed, the outline could be 1 to 3 pages on the average. Note, the outline should guide the logic and flow of your argument, but should also reflect the needs of your thesis. As all theses vary in depth and scope, so does the length and depth of outlines for those theses. The rough draft should be roughly three pages in the notebook. (This is a rough estimate—you may run over depending on handwriting). The rough draft should also clearly demonstrate attempts to edit and revise the essay toward the final draft. It is recommended you use a different colour pen for your revisions to make the process more clearly evident. A two to three page final essay is adequate. The outline and rough draft must be handwritten in the notebook—for the sake of your teacher's eyes, please write as neatly as you can (exceptions may be allowed by

individual teachers based upon need—for example, should you injure your writing hand over the summer, or other such extenuating circumstances). The final draft should be typed. **Proper MLA format must be used for all citations, and a Works Cited page must be included for your two required sources (see below).**

**ESSAY PROMPT:**

**English IV:**

“Again, it is absurd to hold that a man ought to be ashamed of being unable to defend himself with his limbs, but not of being unable to defend himself with speech and reason, when the use of rational speech is more distinctive of a human being than the use of his limbs. And if it be objected that one who uses such power of speech unjustly might do great harm, that is a charge which may be made in common against all good things except virtue, and above all against the things that are most useful, as strength, health, wealth, generalship. A man can confer the greatest of benefits by a right use of these, and inflict the greatest of injuries by using them wrongly.”

**--Aristotle**

In addition to the primary text of *1984*, this essay requires that you use the internet (or public library periodical resources) to locate and use for added support a news or magazine article from a credible source\* that in some relevant and serious way relates to your thesis. The article must be recent (last five years) and must in some way discuss the same themes or problems present in *1984*, specifically as relates to the prompt question below:

In the novel *1984*, what is the relationship between language and the individual? How and why is language used as a way to control the people of Oceania? Avoid plot summary.

*\*Respectable print sources are best. Consider making use of the NCHS library's online databases (may not be available during the entire summer). Most credible sources have their own websites which allow free searching of articles, as well. Whichever source you use, be sure to obtain the full MLA citation information to include in your Works Cited page.*