



## Summer Reading – 2019

English 2 Honors will start the year with a focus on the rhetoric used to create the dystopian world of Orwell’s *1984*.

- Students are expected to read Book One of the novel by August 19<sup>th</sup> (pgs. 1-104). This is the material that we will reference in class.
- Students who choose to read the entire book will have the opportunity to take a test and demonstrate their knowledge of the full text to earn extra credit points on a future assignment.

While you are reading, take notes on the following ideas:

- What does “dystopian” mean? How does *1984* fit into this category?
- How much does our history and our memory rely on the use of language?
- What role does technology play in the collecting AND creation of history? How can technology be used to control a country’s citizens?
- Look into other totalitarian leaders from the 1940s through today. What tactics have they used to control and intimidate their people?
- How does *1984* serve as a warning? What is Orwell trying to warn us (people in the future) about?

Note expectations (can be on a separate sheet or on sticky notes in the book)

Page number / Quote	Thoughts
(1-2) “[T]he poster with the enormous face gazed from the wall. It was one of those pictures which are so contrived that the eyes follow you about when you move. BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU, the caption beneath it ran”	One way that a ruler can control his people is through fear – this poster makes everyone feel like they are being watched at all times, making them afraid to do anything that could be deemed unpatriotic
(28) “ <i>Thoughtcrime does not entail death; thoughtcrime IS death</i> ”	Consider the importance of the 1 <sup>st</sup> amendment in our country – having my own thoughts and voicing them is an important right denied to Winston