

ES 12 Online Lesson 3: April 27 - May 3

1984 - Part 1, Chapter 8 – Part 2, Chapter 1

Read the questions first, and then complete the readings. Some, but not all, questions are in chronological order, while others require a larger understanding of the complete section.

ALL MEMBERS should be contributing to EVERY question in some way. Dividing up the questions to do individually runs contrary to the nature of the assignment and will not be considered as an authentic reflection of student ability.

1. Re-watch the video I posted last week, and comment on what makes *1984* a work of dystopian literature, according to the criteria I outlined.
2. While the proles are not deemed as a threat in the same way as the Outer Party members (Winston and his colleagues) are, they are nevertheless controlled. From this section, discuss one or two ways that control of the Proles is evident. Does this type of control extend into our real world? Can you cite modern or historical examples of this same type of control? HINT: Sugarcandy Mountain!!
3. “Scraps of Beautiful Rubbish”

Winston buys the coral paperweight not only because it is beautiful, but also because its beauty and its existence is a reminder of an era that has long passed. The paperweight, the engraving of the church, the nursery rhyme: all of these are artifacts that represent a world where art, faith, and beauty are treasured societal elements. No such artifact exists in Winston’s world in the way that it was originally intended.

Find ONE artifact that has significance to you as a representation of a moment in our society’s history that has come and gone. (Required from each group member)

This artifact can have personal significance to you, but it should also speak to a change in society in some way.

Pike's Example



My example is the Super Nintendo Entertainment System. This is my artifact from a bygone era because back in the day, if I wanted to play with my friends, we had to go to each other's houses and play. Today, this type of interaction is virtually non-existent; player vs. player contests are done over the internet, and while we might still be able to see and hear the friends we are playing with, I feel like we are missing out on something if we aren't in the same room. When gaming systems started making the switch to online competitive/ co-operative play only, I thought the gaming industry was losing something special.

Buzzfeed article – “Information Apocalypse”

1. Find three quotes from the article that best summarize its contents. Explain the quotes' relevance or meaning. (If your quotes are already taken by a group member, then select quotes that are significant to you in some way and comment on that significance).
2. Is what is being described in this article worse than the manipulation of information in 1984? Why or why not?
3. Research another example of technology that is being used to mis-represent information you consume online.

OR

Provide an example of “fake-news”. Include both the FAKE version, as well as the TRUTH, from a credible source.

4. What is “reality apathy”? To what degree do you suffer from this?

Remember, *your* questions about the book posted here COUNT too. Even better, your questions, and possible answers provided by group members count even more!