

Definition of “ideology”

A set of beliefs or principles, especially one on which a political system, party, or organization is based.



Fascism, political ideology and mass movement that dominated many parts of central, southern, and eastern Europe between 1919 and 1945 and that also had adherents in western Europe, the United States, South Africa, Japan, Latin America, and the Middle East. Europe's first fascist leader, Benito Mussolini, took the name of his party from the Latin word *fascis*, which referred to a bundle of elm or birch rods (usually containing an ax) used as a symbol of penal authority in ancient Rome. Although fascist parties and movements differed significantly from each other, they had many characteristics in common, including extreme militaristic nationalism, contempt for electoral democracy and political and cultural liberalism, a belief in natural social hierarchy and the rule of elites, and the desire to create a *Volksgemeinschaft* (German: "people's community"), in which individual interests would be subordinated to the good of the nation. (<http://www.britannica.com/topic/fascism>)



Socialism, general term for the political and economic theory that advocates a system of collective or government ownership and management of the means of production and distribution of goods. Because of the collective nature of socialism, it is to be contrasted to the doctrine of the sanctity of private property that characterizes capitalism. Where capitalism stresses competition and profit, socialism calls for cooperation and social service.

In a broader sense, the term socialism is often used loosely to describe economic theories ranging from those that hold that only certain public utilities and natural resources should be owned by the state to those holding that the state should assume responsibility for all economic planning and direction. In the past 150 years there have been innumerable differing socialist programs. For this reason socialism as a doctrine is ill defined, although its main purpose, the establishment of cooperation in place of competition remains fixed. (<http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/socialism>)

Socialism:
the radical
idea of
sharing

Anarchism, cluster of doctrines and attitudes centred on the belief that government is both harmful and unnecessary. Anarchist thought developed in the West and spread throughout the world, principally in the early 20th century.

During the French Revolution the leader of the moderate Girondin faction of Parliament, Jacques-Pierre Brissot, accused his most extreme rivals, the Enragés, of being the advocates of “anarchy”:

Laws that are not carried into effect, authorities without force and despised, crime unpunished, property attacked, the safety of the individual violated, the morality of the people corrupted, no constitution, no government, no justice, these are the features of anarchy.

"As for politics, I'm an anarchist. I hate governments and rules and fetters. Can't stand caged animals. People must be free. "
— Charlie Chaplin.



KEY TERMS TO USE AS WE DISCUSS ORWELL'S 1984

communism : is the political belief that all people are equal and that workers should control the means of producing things.

socialism : socialism is a set of left wing political principles whose general aim is to create a system in which everyone has an equal opportunity to benefit from a country's wealth. Under socialism, the country's main industries are usually owned by the state.

totalitarianism : totalitarianism is the ideas, principles, and practices of a totalitarian political system.

totalitarian : A totalitarian political system is one in which there is only one political party which controls everything and does not allow any opposition parties.

KEY TERMS TO USE AS WE DISCUSS ORWELL'S *1984*

propaganda : propaganda is information often inaccurate or biased information, which a political organisation publishes or broadcasts in order to influence people.

satire : satire is the use of humour, irony, or exaggeration in order to show how foolish or wicked some people's behaviour or ideas are.

a satire : a satire is a play, film or novel that uses satire to criticise something.

utopia : utopia is an imaginary world where society is perfect and everyone is happy.

oligarchy : an oligarchy is a small group of people who control and run a particular country or organisation.

fascism : fascism is a set of right-wing political beliefs that includes strong control on society and the economy by the state, a powerful role for armed forces and the prevention of political opposition.

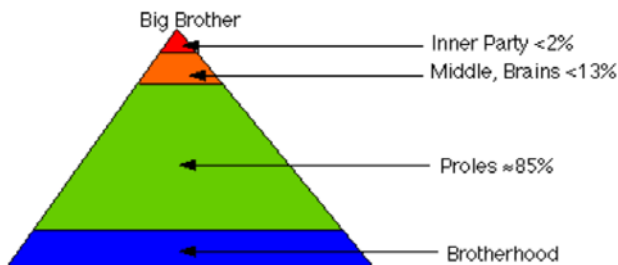
proletariat : lowest class of community, people without capital.

Hierarchy of characters :

3 main characters : Winston, Julia and O'Brien.

secondary characters :

Other important character : the proles.



Who are the proles?

Big Brother = paradox of dictator. (Usually one looks up to a person and sees them, here he is completely absent).

Who are the proles?

- The 'proles' in 1984 constitute the vast majority (more than 80%) of the populace, but do not have a great part to play in the novel, which is primarily concerned with what goes on within 'The Party'.
- The masses, the proletariat (from which 'prole' is obviously derived), are supposed to be the prime beneficiaries of English Socialism. They are, after all, the majority, the working class. However, it is clear that in fact 'Ing Soc' is not for their benefit, and has brought no particular improvements to their lives. Winston muses that in the bad old days of capitalism, the workers were ruthlessly exploited, but this exploitation has not really changed ("Women still did work in the coal mines, as a matter of fact.") Only the precise nature of the authority over them has changed.

(<http://www.pensnest.co.uk/A-Level%20Pages/mod5proles.html>)



Obvious Themes So Far

There is the idea of gaining power entirely for its own sake.

There is the idea that societal control can take away one's individuality.

There is the idea that the past is mutable.

There is also the idea of socialism embedded in Ingsoc (Newspeak for English Socialism or the English Socialist Party), the political party of the totalitarian government of Oceania.



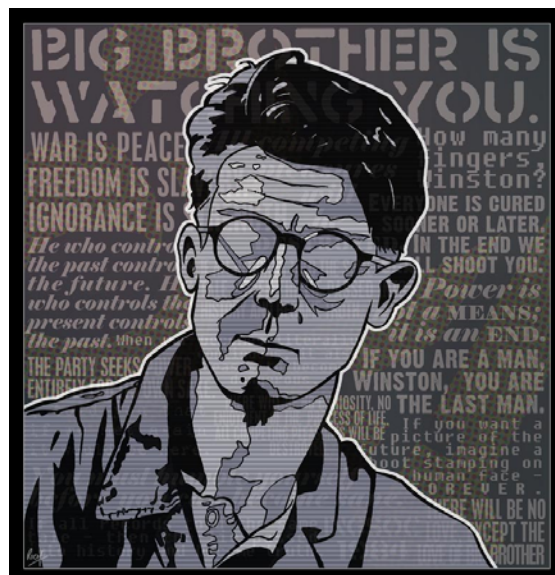
Criticism of *1984*

- The novel is not character driven. It is a novel of ideas.
- The characters are representations of humankind and they lack a sense of personality.
- Winston is narrow-minded and is an unsympathetic character.



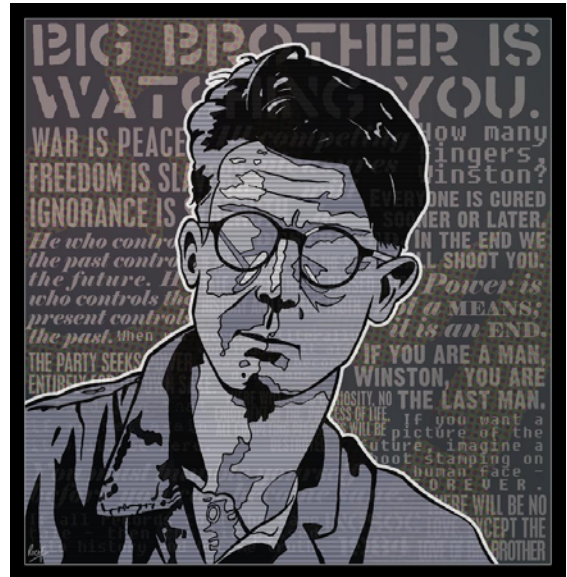
Do you agree? Why? Why not?

What do we know about Winston Smith so far?



What do we know about Winston Smith so far?

- He is an average man.
- He senses that there was a time when life for everyone was better.
- He is concerned with individual freedom and expression. Consider his diary, for example.
- His memory begins to develop because of the diary.
- His love for Julia expands to a world of feelings. He makes his dream come true and wishes he could control the past.
- He remembers his love for his mother as well as his cruelty and selfishness towards his sister. He is capable of feeling sorrow.
- He vows to remain true with Julia.



So far, what inferences can we make about the author?



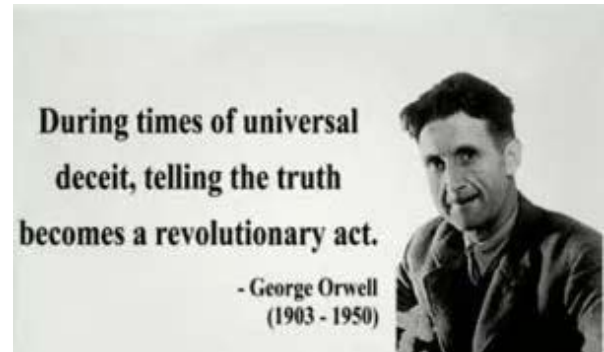
Orwell at 17.

So far, what inferences can we make about the author?

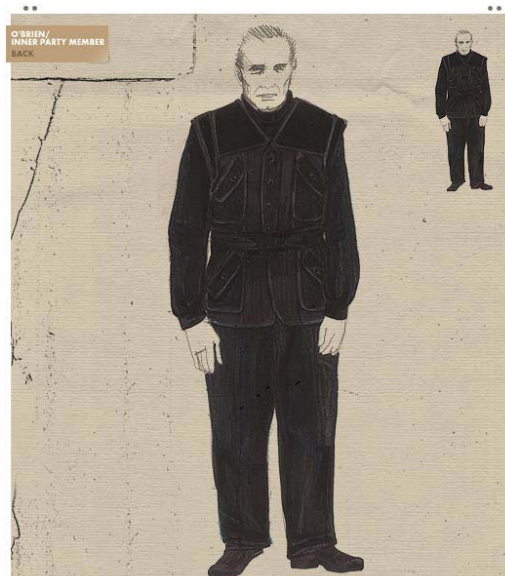
He believes that any form of totalitarianism threatens the uniqueness of the individual.

He seems to assume that none of us are free of this power of oppression.

His message may be that people must fight against the state that controls them.



So far, what do we know about O'Brien?



So far, what do we know about O'Brien?

- He represents the ideology of the party.
- He represents pure intellect.
- He is magnetic in character.
- He is member of the Inner Party, and yet Winston feels as though he has known him for many years.
- He plays very manipulative "games."
- Winston admires him.
- He is the head of the Ministry of Love.



The Ministry of Love Needs You

Help fight THE WAR ON SUBVERSION by being a good citizen.
Fill in your name and address below and post the card. Postage is paid.

Inform on neighbours ☐

Monitor the movements of loved ones ☐

Report on views expressed in the work place ☐

Intervene in cases of subversion ☐

Listen to suspect telephone calls ☐

Place tick against the Plan in which you are interested

Name

Address

What do we know about Julia?

