***1984* Project Possibilities**

**Directions:** Choose one of the projects below to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the events, characters, and themes of *1984*. Connect to the book! Your project will be due on May 20th.

1. “I pledge allegiance…”

Examine the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance word for word. In two paragraphs analyze and explain what it says about freedom of speech. Think about *1984* then, from either Winston or Julia’s point of view, write a new Pledge of Allegiance based on the rules of the Party and Oceania. In and additional page, explain how this new pledge applies to the Party and Oceania.

2. Edit me, baby!

You are Orwell’s editor and you feel that *1984* would be even more appealing with catchy, meaningful chapter and part titles. Replace each chapter and part with actual titles/names. For **each** chapter/part name, explain in a paragraph what in that chapter/part inspired you to name it thus.

3. You should buy this…

Create a dust jacket for *1984* including a photo, major idea, incident, or symbol from the novel. Include also the title, the author’s name, back cover summary, and why readers should read the book (e.g. critical reviews). The author’s biographical information, other books he has written, and even a picture should also be included.

4. Be warned!

Hate Week is a monumentous event for Airstrip One and as a Party member you want to show your support and get your fellow members excited. Create your own posters (2-3 different designs) and t-shirts (1 or 2 different designs) for Hate Week. Remember: it is a means of propaganda employed by the Inner Party to encourage conformity and public support of Party actions and policies [that you support yourself]. Explain how each design fulfills these actions and policies. You should be writing 2 paragraphs per design.

5. Sing me a pretty song

The themes of *1984* are prevalent in all forms of human expression, and many songs cite 1984 was a direct or indirect influence on why an artist wrote a song and what message a band is trying to communicate. (For example, listen to Radiohead’s “2+2=5.”) Find two songs that, directly or indirectly, represent the themes of *1984*. Print out lyrics and annote/analyze how this song is influenced by or in conversation with *1984* – one page per song. Analysis should be in paragraph form but you should also show your textual annotations on your lyrics. Make sure you cite the lyrics you’re talking about!

6. “Dear Diary, Mood—Apathetic”

Continue Winston’s diary for him! The beginnings of the diary should repeat what we see/read in *1984*, but Winston doesn’t write about his encounters with Julia or O’Brien in his diary. Also, consider what might Winston write about if he had the diary in Mr. Charrington’s room and was reading the Book, if he had his diary in Room 101, after he is released? Write a minimum of seven entries.

7. If Big Brother met Calvin & Hobbes

Political cartoons are used to express criticism of current world events and leaders and cover a variety of topics—the economy, pop culture, education, environmental issues, political speeches and campaigns, etc. If the Brotherhood had a secret publication and included political cartoons aimed at the Party and Big Brother, what might they look like? Create a minimum of five cartoons. It can be one 5 frame cartoon with a continuous message, or 5 individual frames with several messages. For either, write 2-3 paragraphs telling why or how each fits into the themes of Big Brother and 1984.

8. “I’m ready for my close-up”

Create a condensed video version of 1984. It can be a summary of the whole novel (think of something like Sparknotes or Cliffnotes would produce) or a new interpretation of it. You can act yourself, graphically design cartoon characters, use puppets, create characters à la South Park style, etc. The video should be no longer than 5 minutes.

9. Do what I say!

Research what the rules and consequences of historical dictators employed in their oppressive/fascist/totalitarian states (e.g. Stalin, Mussolini, Hitler, Nasser, Sadat, Amin, Zedong, etc.) and write a short paper on your findings (2-3 pages, make sure you cite!). Based on these historical examples, *1984*, *V for Vendetta*, and *Fahrenheit 451*, create your own totalitarian society with rules and consequences. Write another short paper (1-2 pages) on why you want these rules (a minimum of ten rules) for your society and justify your punishments.

10. “Reader’s Choice”

Come up with your own creative project. It must show effort, creativity, and a connection to the reading. A boring poster will not receive much credit – think outside the box. This option MUST be approved by Mrs. Love ON or BEFORE May 12th. Do not show up to class on the 16th with a project that we have not discussed.