

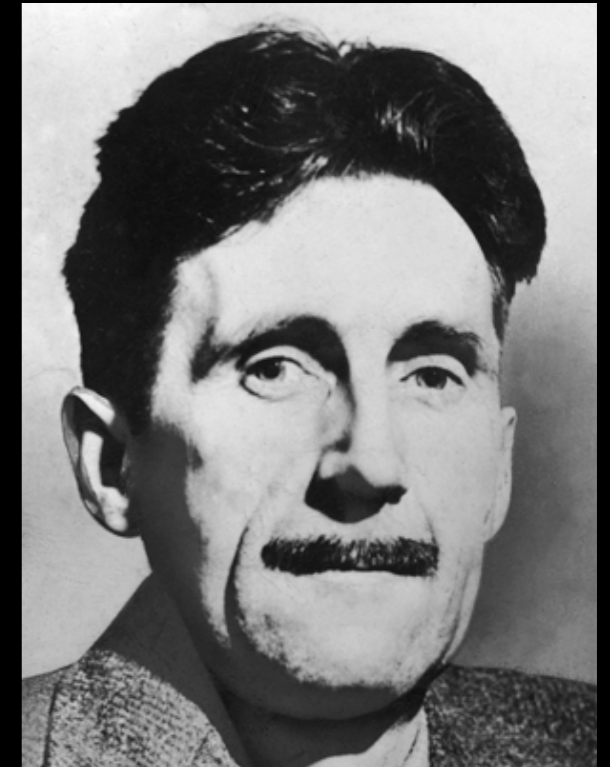


1984

George Orwell

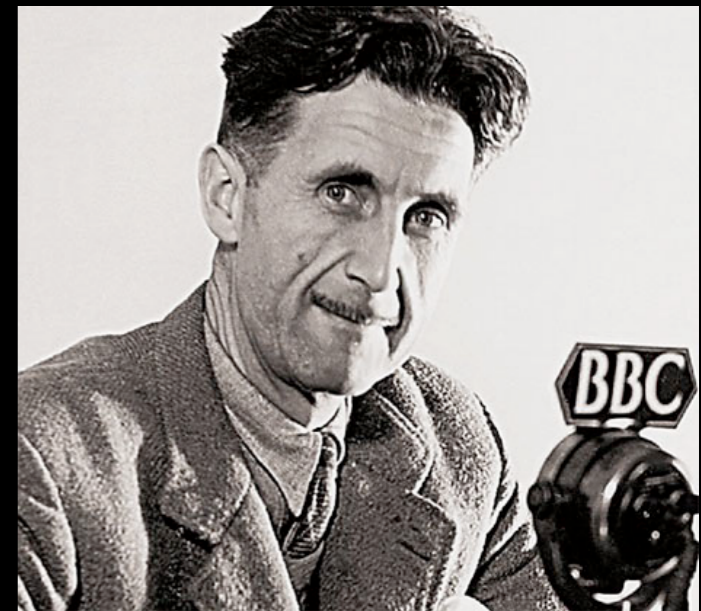
George Orwell

- Born Eric Arthur Blair in Motihari, India in 1903
- Brought to England about a year after his birth
- Began writing at a very early age - wrote his first poem around the age of four
- Attended boarding school, where he was first exposed to England's class system
- Was successful in school, however, his parents did not have the money to pay for university - joined the Indian Imperial Police Force in 1922



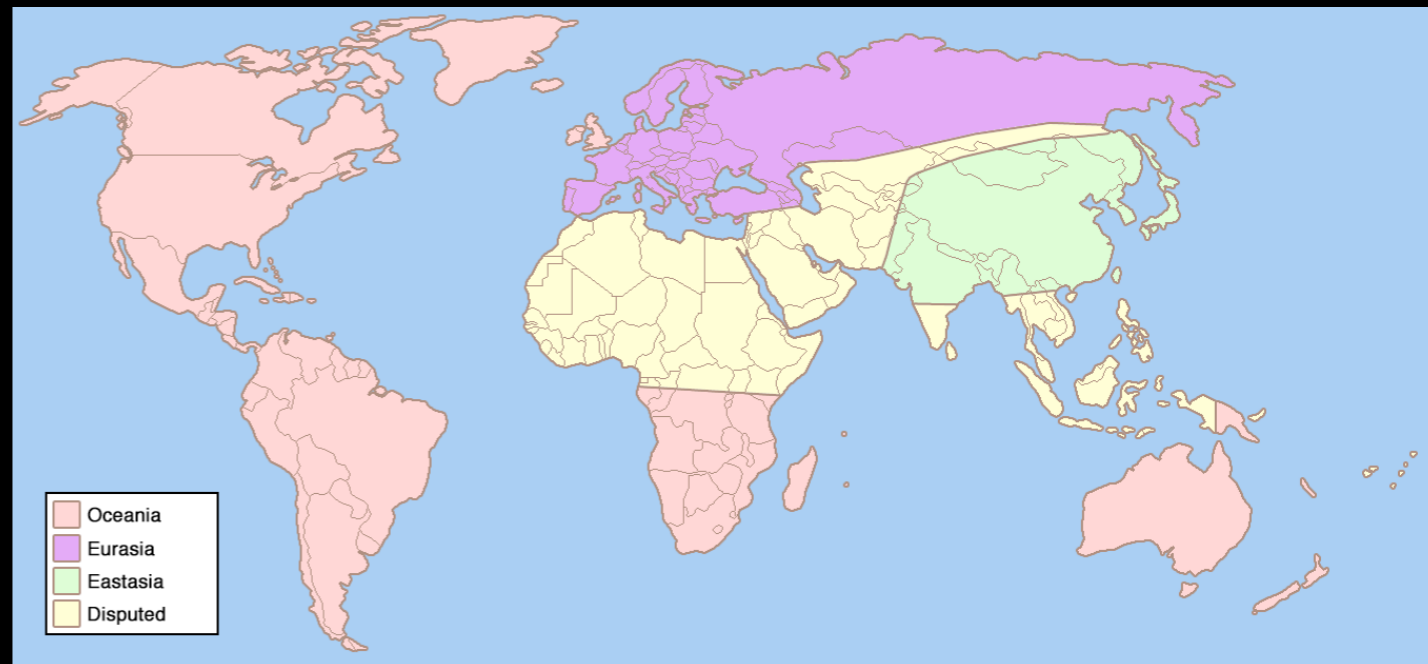
George Orwell

- Published his first work, *Down and Out in Paris and London* (1933), under the pseudonym George Orwell so that he would not embarrass his family
- Best known for two novels, *Animal Farm* (1945) and *1984* (1949)
- *1984* was a huge success, but Orwell had little time to enjoy it, as he was already in the late stages of tuberculosis
- Died in January of 1950



1984

- Orwell published the novel 1949
- Dark, satirical political science-fiction novel
- Portrayal of a **dystopia**, where the world is governed by three all-controlling superstates
- Meant to warn readers of the dangers of a totalitarian government

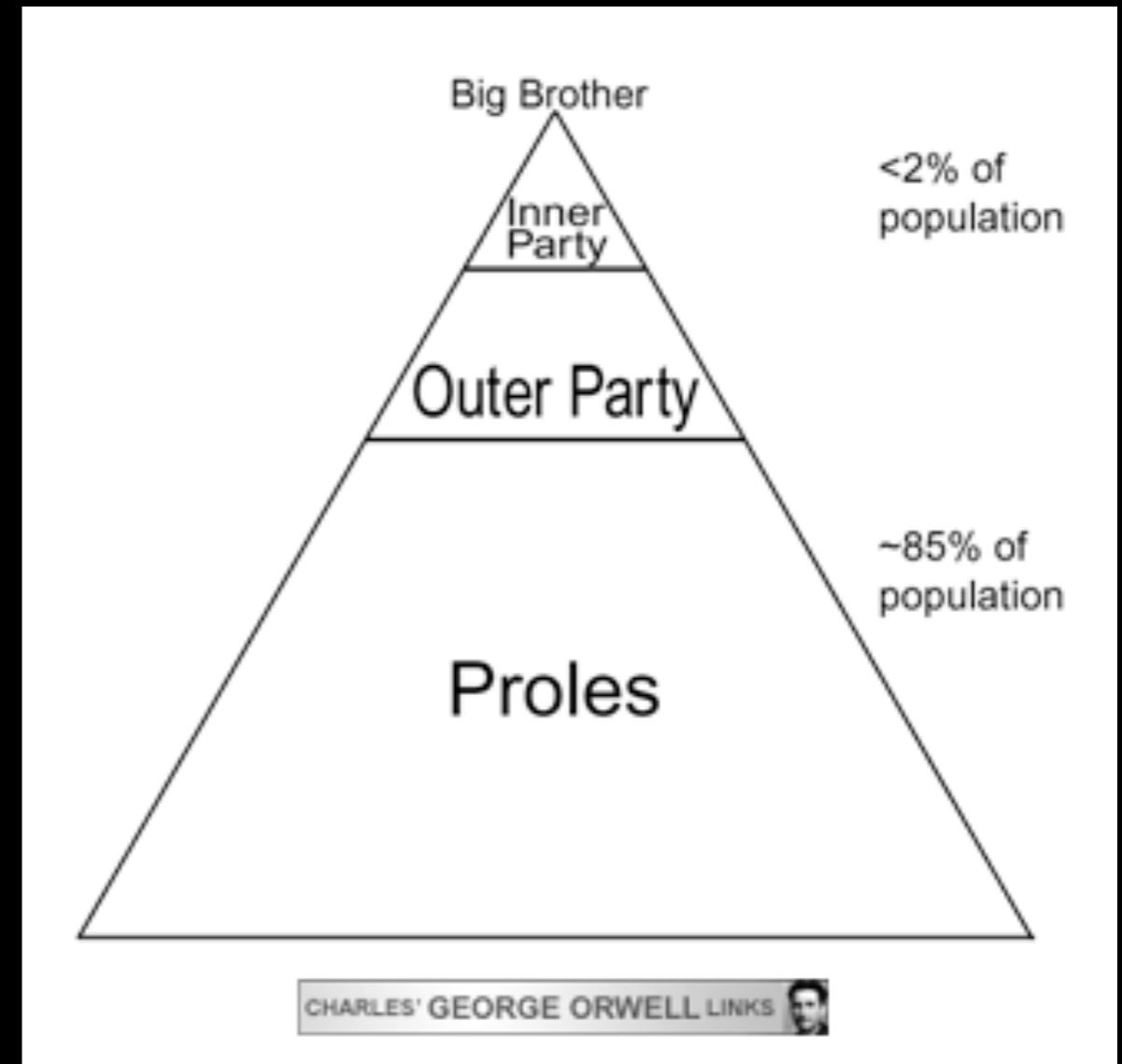


1984

- Based many aspects of Oceania's society on the Stalin-era Soviet Union (e.g.: the Two Minutes Hate was based on Stalinism's demonization of its enemies and rivals)
- Also meant to reflect various aspects of the social and political life of both the United Kingdom and the United States
 - E.g.: In the United Kingdom in 1948, the British economy was poor and the British Empire was dissolving, but newspapers were reporting its triumphs and wartime allies like the USSR were becoming peacetime enemies.

1984

- Airstrip One, a province of Oceania, acts as the primary setting
- Ingsoc (Newspeak for “English Socialism”) is the political ideology of totalitarianism in Oceania
- Very strict class structure



How does The Party maintain control?

- **NEWSPEAK:** The official language of Oceania with a vocabulary that decreases every year to limit free thought and expression
- **TELESCEENS:** Two-way television screens that allow The Party to spread propaganda and to watch any of its citizens at any given time
- **THOUGHT POLICE:** The secret police force meant to find and punish thought-criminals
- **JUNIOR SPIES:** Children who are trained by The Party to monitor adults, mainly their parents, to catch thought-criminals
- **TWO MINUTES HATE:** A daily activity in which Party members must watch a film of the Party's enemies (e.g.: Emmanuel Goldstein) and express their hatred for them.

Winston Smith

- Introduced to Orwell's dystopia through the eyes of the protagonist, Winston Smith
- He is very curious, observant, and is concerned with understanding Party philosophy
- He is the common man
- A member of the Outer Party



The Unit

- What types of activities and assignments can you expect?
 - Informal quizzes
 - Discussion
 - Group activities
 - Journal entries
 - Final writing assignment

Timeline

SECTION	SECTION DEADLINE This means you must come to class having read the entire section for the day listed	SUGGESTED BREAKDOWN This means that you should read the chapter(s) listed on the night suggested	
Part I	<u>Friday, September 27</u>	Monday, Sept. 23	Chapters 1, 2 & 3
		Tuesday, Sept. 24	Chapters 4, 5 & 6
		Wednesday, Sept. 25	Chapters 7 & 8
Part II	<u>Thursday, October 3</u>	Weekend of Sept. 27-29	Chapters 1 to 3
		Monday, Sept. 30	Chapters 4 to 6
		Tuesday, Oct. 1	Chapters 7 & 8
		Wednesday, Oct. 2	Chapters 9 & 10
Part III	<u>Monday, October 7</u>	Thursday, Oct. 3	Chapters 1 to 3
		Friday, Oct. 4	Chapters 4 to 6