



THE FLIPSIDE



ASSIGNMENT: Write a descriptive paragraph, using as few adjectives as possible.

I was walking home, and it started to rain. I looked up, and raindrops splattered on my face like water from a bucket. The sky looked as if it were a black hole. I thought I saw a swarm of fireflies, but it was really lightning. Thunder boomed like a giant doing a tap dance. I started running. When I got inside, I looked like a mop just after it cleaned the floor. I sat by the fire to dry off.

SABRINA ODIERNO
Sixth Grade

The horse trotted happily in the ring. The warm up was going beautifully. The show was about to start. Oh, no! It started to rain! The horse would perform badly in the rain. The rain stopped! Hooray! The blue ribbon is ours now. Guess what! It really was.

IZABEL FARYNICK
Sixth Grade

It was a Sunday afternoon. The wind blew the flowers ever so slightly. It was as if you could hear everything growing in one motion. Nature was taking its course.

MALCOLM WYNTER
Sixth Grade

I remember a place. It is a section of a trail on a mountain. I could walk across the ground almost silently because the ground has pine needles covering it. It is a clearing in the trees, but I could not enjoy it for long, since I was walking and quickly passed it.

I could smell the scent of pine. It smelled as though it was freshly broken off of a branch. I did not hear noises. I felt as though I could relax completely.

WENDY TULLY-GUSTAFSON
Sixth Grade

ASSIGNMENT: Reactions to summer reading book, 1984.

Those who simply accept the information handed to them seem to be better off in this society. Others are forced to keep their ideas and thoughts to themselves and are punished for self-expression and, Big Brother forbid, opinions. But overall, all people are oppressed and forced to keep silent whether they do so themselves or require a little help from the Party.

I really enjoyed this book. I found Orwell's impression of what 1984 would bring to be exciting and interesting, and the details to be very well thought through. His ideas seemed to be very precise and timely. If not in 1984, then perhaps the world will change that dramatically by 2084.

I thought that Winston's transformation from a free-thinking, hesitant-but-slowly-becoming-sure-of-himself, strong-minded individual to an unoriginal, Big-Brother-loving robot was as fascinating as it was horrifying.

SADAF AHMAD
Ninth Grade

Humanity is just a term to describe humans and their behavior. 1984 is mainly about how far the capabilities of man can extend and how corrupted people can lead to the extinction of humanity.

This book, to quote Captain Jack Sparrow, shows that there are only two things in life: "what a man can do, and what a man can't do." Perhaps the scariest thing about this book is that it is all about what a man *can* do. That is a reason why I did not like this book. Other reasons may be because I prefer to be ignorant of all the true capabilities of man or, it may be, because I am too aware of them and, therefore, terrified. However, although I did not like 1984, I cannot deny that it was a good book. It explains one of the greatest fears that most of us have, and the feeling that this could happen remains long after the book is finished.

AYESHA SHIBLI
Ninth Grade

No matter how oppressed and beaten down people may be, how controlled they may seem, some part of the mind rebels, making full and utter domination impossible. A perfect example of this is Winston's neighbor, Parsons. Described as the epitome of orthodoxy and a model citizen, completely and entirely devoted to the Party, Parsons is taken by the thoughtpolice for chanting, "Down with Big Brother!" in his sleep.

1984 was not a good read, but a brilliant one. The tale is an utterly disturbing one, and the thought of such a future is sickening, but it is also enthralling. While slightly long-winded at times, it was absolutely incredible how Orwell made you feel as though you were a part of the book. It truly felt like you were in Winston's world. It was so realistic sometimes *I* felt the terror of the risk of being taken by the thoughtpolice. A book as real as this is a rare find and most certainly one to be passed on to others.

MONTANA PRECHTL
Ninth Grade