

Graham-Kapowsin High School  
**Summer Reading Assignment**  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**1984** by George Orwell

**Assignment:** Type a 300-500 word essay (approximately 1 ½ pages) on **ONE** of the prompts below. Give page numbers as you explain concepts from the book. If you cite other sources, be sure to use proper citations in MLA format. This assignment is due on the day you return to school and will be collected in your Communication Arts class. It will eventually be placed in your portfolio. Please include the letter of your prompt in your title.

A. Discuss how language is important to freedom. What is Newspeak? What is its purpose? Why is it essential for the Party to rid the language of synonyms and antonyms? Do you think that there are any modern day equivalents to Newspeak? Explain.

B. The doublethink concepts of “ignorance and strength” and “war is peace” are discussed in the book of the Brotherhood. Outline the argument of the doublethink concepts. Discuss why the party’s conclusions are ironic.

C. How does the Party control history? Why? Give some modern day examples or examples from history where governments have attempted to do the same thing?

D. Words and phrases from 1984 have made it in our language and vernacular. Explain what terms we use today and how you think that this book, written over 50 years ago, has influenced our culture. (Be sure to cite your sources.)