



## 1984 Dialectical\* Journals

Divide your novel into three sections and complete a dialectical journal for each third of your book on the following dates:

Book #1 DJs due: \_\_\_\_\_

Book #2 DJs due: \_\_\_\_\_

Book #3 DJs due: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dialectical Journal Directions:

- As you read your book, place a pencil mark (lightly!) or mark with a post-it when a passage strikes a nerve or snags your eye.
- At the end of each section excerpt 3 passages that connect THEMATICALLY. *1984* themes include but are not limited to: **War, Peace, Truth, Trust, Language, Privacy, Justice, Torture, Censorship, Government Control, Media Control, Semantics, Propaganda**, etc...
- Focus on a single theme throughout the book, but it's not forbidden to shift themes.
- Write a response to each of the excerpts in which you muse about the connections or reflect on the significance of the passage to the novel as a whole.
- Conclude each installment with a dialectical truth

### Credit

Each journal installment will be graded on **quantity** (5 pts) and **quality** (10pts). **To receive full credit, ALL excerpts must be properly punctuated and cited the MLA way.**

### Sample Dialectical Journal Entry

(Use long or short quotes, but note the MLA differences!)

#### **Excerpt (of less than 4 lines)**

"Bah blah blahblahblahblah" (Orwell 14).

#### **Response (reactions, analysis, connections)**

Blahblahblahblah blahblahblah. Blahblahblahblah blahblahblah.

Blahblahblahblah blahblahblah. Blahblahblahblah blahblahblah.

**Dialectical Truth:** the ultimate connection between the three passages--ask yourself--what do these passages add up to? What is Orwell suggesting about \_\_\_\_\_ (truth? justice? ignorance? love? time?--note how these are all single-word abstracts AND they're themes as well...just a coincidence? I think not!).

### **OR**

#### **Excerpt (of 4 lines or more)**

Blahblahblah 'Bahlah' he said. blahblahblahblahblahblah

blah. Blahblahblahblah blahblahblah Blahblahblah blahblahblah.

Blahblahblah blahblahblah Blahblahblah blahblahblah. Blahblahblah blahblahblah.

Blahblahblah. (Orwell 62)

#### **Response (reactions, analysis, connections)**

Blahblahblah blahblahblah. Blahblahblah blahblahblah.

**Dialectical Truth:** the ultimate connection between the three passages--ask yourself--what do these passages add up to? What is Orwell suggesting about \_\_\_\_\_ (truth? justice? ignorance? love? time?--note how these are all single-word abstracts AND they're themes as well...just a coincidence? I think not!).

**\*DIALECTICAL is an ancient Greek term of classical rhetoric, meaning "to arrive at the truth through critical discussion and analysis"**

