

**Summer Reading**  
Advanced Placement Literature and Composition  
Wyomissing Area Junior/Senior High School  
Mrs. Ostrich



**William Faulkner –Getting His Summer On**

**Please read the following novel:** *1984* by George Orwell

**Please read ONE of the following novels:**

- Atwood, Margaret. *Oryx and Crake*
- Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*
- Danielewski, Mark. *The House of Leaves*
- Egan, Jennifer. *A Visit from the Goon Squad*
- Hill, Nathan. *The Nix*
- Pessl, Marisha. *The Night Film*
- Tartt, Donna. *The Secret History*

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I have copies of the books, which you can sign out. You can also choose to purchase your own copies.

In addition, you will write a paper on *1984*, which appears on the back of this sheet. **The paper is due the first day of school. Late papers will be deducted a full grade for every day they are late.** Should you misplace or mangle this handout, I will have it posted on my Schoology as soon as the class is activated. Please expect that you will be assessed on the comprehension of all of your reading of the novels the first week of school.

## 1984 Paper Topics – Summer Reading

Please choose one of the items below and write a 750-1000 word analytical paper (3-4 pages). This paper is due the **first day of school**. You will need:

- at least two quotations per paragraph (not in thesis paragraph or conclusion)
  - MLA format and citation rules
  - an outside source (article, movie) and a works cited
1. Research B.F. Skinner's essays on behavior modification. What does he suggest is the most effective way to influence human behavior? How does his approach to human behavior contrast with the Party's approach in *1984*? In your discussion, please include the ways Orwell chooses to employ some of Skinner's theories or reject them.
  2. Research Trotsky's life and conflict with Stalin. Find pictures of Trotsky and Stalin and compare them with Orwell's descriptions of Goldstein and Big Brother, respectively. Is this comparison accurate? If it is accurate, what is Orwell telling the reader about the Russian Revolution and the subsequent order of rulers?
  3. The book *1984* directly attacks the idea of personal freedom. What is freedom? Compare Orwell's vision of personal freedom to the liberties Americans have in 2019.

Relevant questions or clarifications will be answered by e-mailing [jostrich@wyoarea.org](mailto:jostrich@wyoarea.org) any time during the summer.

