

level
B1.2

LESSON PLAN

1/6



1984

Aim:

- to develop reading skills and expand vocabulary
- to predict the continuation of a story
- to identify a literary genre
- to encourage the pleasure of reading

Expansive Reading Theme: **Our great Freedoms: Speech, Thought and the Press**

This cross-curricular feature allows students to explore the historical background, cultural connections and other topics of the dossiers or the text.

Level:

B1.2

Time:

60 minutes

Materials:

1. front cover illustration of the graded reader **1984**
2. worksheet – parts 1 and 2

INTRODUCTION

This lesson plan introduces George Orwell's dystopian masterpiece, **1984**, published in 1949. The short extract chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary, delve into the complex characters of the story and predict what could happen next. With the feature 'The Expansive Reading Theme' students will enjoy exploring the topics of the dossiers and the text, with their cross-curricular approach. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading a world-famous novel.

BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE STORY

In the year 1984, the people of Oceania can't do, say or think what they want. They must obey and follow Big Brother, the Party leader. The Party always says that 'Everything's great in Oceania!', but the protagonist, Winston Smith, doesn't really agree. He begins to question his life, and this can be dangerous for him.

DISCUSSION AND PREDICTION

At this point there are some questions that need to be answered.

1. Where is Oceania located?
2. Why can't the people of Oceania do, say or think whatever they want?
3. How do the people of Oceania feel about Big Brother and the Party?
4. When does Winston Smith begin to question his life and why?
5. What will happen to Winston Smith?



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LESSON PLAN 2/6



PROCEDURE Before the lesson

- make a copy of the worksheet, Part 1 and 2 (one for each student)
- tell your students you're going to be speaking about a book called 1984.
- read the background notes on the story to the class

PART ONE

Step One (10 minutes)

Ask the students to comment on their first impressions and ask them these questions.

What genre do you think it is?

Have you read any other book by George Orwell?

Show the students the cover illustration and ask them these questions.

Why are there so many eyes on the telescreens?

Why are the two people all black, without any features?

Step Two (30 minutes)

- Give students the worksheet, Part 1, and explain that the text comes from Chapter 2, The Ministry of Truth.
- Ask them to read the extract. You could read it out loud to make it more dramatic.
- Ask students to read it alone or in pairs for a more detailed understanding.
- Ask them to do Activity 1, Comprehension. Then ask them to work in pairs to check their answers. (KEY: 1 c, 2 b, 3 a, 4 b.)
- Ask students to comment with opinions, Predictions, feelings and observations.

PART 2: THEME (20 minutes)

Our great Freedoms: Speech, Thought and the Press

- Tell your students that the purpose of this theme is to make them part of 'cross-curricular learning'; to connect what happened in the past to what is happening in today's world. Their comments and opinions are the backbone of this kind of learning.
- Ask them read Part 2 and do the activity.
- Then there is a short, bonus theme that emphasizes the main ideas of the book in relation to the United Nations Agenda 2030— Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.
- If there is no time in class, this activity can be done as homework.

