

Book Club Book Facts

Novels: 1984 & Feed

Draft 1-2 sentence summaries of each text.	
Book 1 Summary: Oceania is a depraved society completely controlled by Big Brother. Together, Winston and Julia grapple with self-actualization, their roles in society, and a desire to take a stand against the thought-controlling government.	Book 2 Summary: “Feed” follows Violet and Titus have their feed, computer located in their brains, hacked. Titus recovers from this trauma, however, Violet becomes very ill. Throughout these two characters’ relationship and Violet’s deteriorating health, Titus learns about the corruption of society around them.
Complete a set of “Book Facts” for each book.	
Location/Setting: Oceania (Present day London) Time: 1980s Primary Characters: Winston, Julia Secondary Characters: Big Brother, O'Brien Themes: Corruption, Government Control, Importance of Language. Other Important Info: Takes place in a futuristic society. Importance of Poverty.	Location/Setting: Briefly the Moon, primarily Earth (United States) Time: Future (approx. 100 years ahead) Primary Characters: Titus, Violet Secondary Characters: Titus’s Friends, Titus’s parents, Violet’s father Themes: Glutiny, Technology vs. Nature, Materialism. Other Important Info: Adolescence prospective present.
Describe initial connections you’ve identified between your two books.	
- Newspeak (“1984”) and Basic Language (“Feed”) - Futuristic elements - Quick/naive relationships. - Corrupt power and values in society. - Based on Western cultures, gives a “peek” into their futures	
Draft a list of “heads up!” that would be useful for future teachers to know or consider.	
- Warn parents and address themes of violence and sex that are present in the novel.	- Warn parents and address themes of sex, drugs, drinking and partying that takes place within “Feed”.

- Make and show connections between corrupt power and censorship in “1984” and historical examples.	- Make comparisons between technology today and the technology present in “Feed”.
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Draw a Story Map for each book.

“1984”

- A. Thirty-year-old Winston, a propaganda editor, begins writing in a diary, documenting his life and questioning Big Brother (BB).
- B. During a Two Minutes Hate, a national daily exercise where everyone pauses to watch a propaganda video and bash BB’s enemies, Winston notices a potential ally and a potential enemy. He reflects on his desire to have a friend or relationship
- C. Shortly thereafter, Julia, the woman he identified as a possible spy, writes Winston a love note. They soon sneak away to the countryside and begin a romantic relationship.
- D. Eventually the couple contacts O’Brien (the potential ally) and attempt to join the rebellion against BB. They get a copy of a treasonous book and continue

“Feed”

- A. Teenagers Titus and his friends travel to the moon for vacation. While there they meet a strange girl named Violet. While at a party, the teens have their “feeds”, computers implanted in their minds, hacked. After they are hacked, they go to the hospital, where they are all cured and sent home. However, since Violet received her feed later in life, her feed continues to malfunction.
- B. While on Earth, Violet and Titus become very close and begin to date. As their relationship progresses, these two begin to realize just how different they are from one another. Titus thrives in the materialistic society they live in, while Violet does not and is very critical of the corruption and control taking place around her. Violet does this by blatantly attempting to defy the feed and not allow it to control her.
- C. Violet’s condition continues to worsen, and not only does her feed stop working, but she is losing control of her body and mind. After many feeble attempts to fix the feed and get funding to help her, because her father is very poor, Violet comes to terms that she is going to die in the near future.

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- D. Violet pleads Titus to love her and to help her finally experience life. However, Titus can not handle her deteriorating health and attempts to distance himself from her.
- E. In the end, Violet finally cannot function and dies, while Titus sits at her bedside.