

1984 – Body Paragraph Outline

Use the CLEVER system to construct your body paragraphs. Because your audience will need additional background information about 1984, we have added a **Context** box after the **Claim** box to give you space to unpack any expository requirements. Lastly, you have two boxes for **Explanation** to allow for more room when drawing parallels between Oceania and the United States.

Cheat Sheet

Claim – Assert an argumentative claim that, by nature, requires evidence to be validated.

Context – Give the expository or contextual background about 1984 required for readers to fully comprehend your argument.

Evidence – Remember to introduce your evidence and include citations.

Explanation A – Explain and analyze your evidence in a way that is digestible to the reader.

Explanation B – Use this second box to draw any further connections give additional analysis.

Reasoning – Illustrate how and why your claim and evidence is significant and supports your thesis.

Essay Prompt:

How are the political and social systems within George Orwell's 1984 used to maintain the state's domain and power over its subjects?

How, and to what degree, do these systems compare with those found in in the United States?

Lastly, how do the oppressive systems used in 1984 impact broader social concepts like community, "otherness," and individuality?

System 1: Telescreen EXAMPLE**USA Comparison: NSA Spygate**

Claim <i>What claim are you making about this system?</i>	The telescreen is used by Big Brother to ensure citizens are obedient and kept under surveillance in a way that is similar to the methods used by the United States' National Security Agency.
Context <i>How does it work and what is it used for?</i>	The Telescreen is a 2-way video monitoring device that fits inside every citizen's home in Oceania. The device is incapable of being turned off and thus takes away any privacy citizen's could ever have.
Evidence (1984)	Winston, while avoiding the Telescreen in his house, explained how, "The Thought Police plugged [the Telescreen] in individuals citizens. It was even conceivable that they watched everybody all the time." (pg. 3)
Explanation A	This quote shows how the Big Brother and the Thought Police use the Telescreen as a way to...
Evidence (USA)	Zyed Farook, author and editor of USA Today wrote, in a 2013 article titled, "Unmasking the Truth" how, "Edward Snowden unmasked the NSA's enormous spy ring and found that citizens phones, computers and electronics are all being bugged."
Explanation B	Even more sinister than Orwell's telescreen was the discovery made by Edward Snowden, NSA contractor, that the US Government was tracking the private citizens' information. According to The Guardian, a British publication, under the guise of preventing terror, the NSA developed programs like TEMPURA that were able to archive information from private emails, text messages and phone calls.
Reasoning <i>How does this paragraph's point prove your thesis?</i>	The Telescreen allows Big Brother to take away any sense of individuality by completely destroying the notion of privacy. Through this act the people of Oceania continue to stay oppressed and obedient to Big Brother.

System 2:**USA Comparison:**

Claim <i>What claim are you making about this system?</i>	
Context <i>How does it work and what is it used for?</i>	
Evidence (1984)	
Explanation A	
Evidence (USA)	
Explanation B	
Reasoning <i>How does this paragraph's point prove your thesis?</i>	

System 3:**USA Comparison:**

Claim <i>What claim are you making about this system?</i>	
Context <i>How does it work and what is it used for?</i>	
Evidence (1984)	
Explanation A	
Evidence (USA)	
Explanation B	
Reasoning <i>How does this paragraph's point prove your thesis?</i>	

System 4:**USA Comparison:**

Claim <i>What claim are you making about this system?</i>	
Context <i>How does it work and what is it used for?</i>	
Evidence (1984)	
Explanation A	
Evidence (USA)	
Explanation B	
Reasoning <i>How does this paragraph's point prove your thesis?</i>	