

“NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR” BY GEORGE ORWELL. CHAPTER I

1. Uwagi ogólne

Zajęcia adresowane są przede wszystkim do studentów polonistyki, politologii i dziennikarstwa.

2. Poziom zaawansowania: B2(+)/C1

3. Czas trwania opisanych ćwiczeń: w zależności od zaangażowania się studentów może to być około 240 minut

4. Cele dydaktyczne

Celem zajęć jest zapoznanie studentów z najsłynniejszym dziełem George’a Orwella, poszerzenie słownictwa, doskonalenie umiejętności analizowania tekstu, jak również ćwiczenie umiejętności dyskusowania w grupie.

5. Uwagi i sugestie

Wydaje się, że warto poprosić studentów o przeczytanie pierwszego rozdziału dużo wcześniej (nawet miesiąc przed zajęciami z tego tematu). Można polecić im porównanie wersji angielskiej z polskim tłumaczeniem. Wiele osób z entuzjazmem podchodzi do takiego wyzwania. Ponieważ tekst ten może być dla wielu studentów trudny językowo, proponuję dać im słowniczek do każdego rozdziału, tak aby sprawnie mogli się uporać z tekstem. Na zajęciach zalecam podanie im obowiązkowego zestawu słówek, który powinni opanować. Zestaw obowiązkowy nie jest w prezentowanych materiałach konieczny – każdy nauczyciel może mieć w tej kwestii własne preferencje. 240 minut podzieliłam na dwa całe zajęcia oraz 60 minut kolejnych zajęć.

ZAJĘCIA 1 (90 MIN)

1. Opcjonalnie możemy wybrać jeden z kilku krótkich, parominutowych filmów o George'u Orwellu i przeprowadzić krótką rozmowę ze studentami na temat zapamiętanych faktów. Można na przykład przed projekcją filmu wypisać na tablicy kilka haseł z nim związanych (np. daty, nazwy etc.) i poprosić o podanie kontekstu do nich po obejrzeniu filmu.
2. Mapa semantyczna: w środku okręgu (przykładowa mapa na osobnej stronie) piszemy imię i nazwisko pisarza oraz jedno hasło z nim związane. Prosimy grupę o dodawanie różnych skojarzeń z Orwellem do naszej mapy.
3. Cytaty: w małych grupach lub parach prosimy o przedyskutowanie cytatów (wszystkich lub wybranych).
4. Tekst do uzupełnienia jedną z podanych form. Dla ochłodzenia atmosfery po dyskusji studenci wykonują ćwiczenie językowe, które jednocześnie dodaje nowe fakty o osobie George'a Orwella.
5. Dyskusja opierająca się na pytaniach ogólnych do pierwszego rozdziału książki *Rok 1984*.

Pytania:

What was the purpose of writing this novel?

Answer: To warn western societies of the dangers of totalitarian governments, of communism.

What society is presented in the novel?

Answer: The perfect totalitarian society ruled by the Party who controls every aspect of life, even people's thoughts.

Why did Orwell choose such a title? (Students' own answers)

ZAJĘCIA 2 (90 MIN)

Analiza poszczególnych tematów oparta na fragmentach tekstu. Dzielimy studentów na małe grupy (ewentualnie pary) i wyznaczamy im tematy do przedstawienia innym (tematy są na osobnej stronie).

ZAJĘCIA 3 (60 MIN)

Sprawdzenie treści rozdziału pierwszego za pomocą quizu. Można zapowiedzieć studentom, że mogą za poprawnie napisane odpowiedzi uzyskać dodatkowe punkty, które będą doliczone do końcowej oceny (quiz na osobnej stronie).

Ćwiczenie słownikowe. Można potraktować je jako część testu zaliczeniowego *Use of English* (stąd trzy różne grupy: A, B, C) lub jako jedno dłuższe ćwiczenie na utrwalenie słownictwa.

CHAPTER 1

PART ONE

Source: <http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks01/0100021.txt>, access: 10 March, 2016.

GLOSSARY

par. 1

to slip – poślizgnąć się: *to move easily and smoothly*

to depict – opisywać, przedstawiać: *to represent by a picture*

electric current – prąd elektryczny: *a stream of electric charge*

ulcer – wrzód: *a slow-healing open sore in which tissue breaks down*

to gaze – spoglądać: *mean to fix one's eyes on something for a long time*

coarse – szorstki, chropowaty: *being harsh or rough*

caption – podpis, napis: *the explanation or description accompanying a pictorial illustration (as a cartoon or photograph)*

par. 2

cardboard – tektura, karton: *a material made from cellulose fiber (as wood pulp) like paper but usually thicker*

vague – mglisty, niejasny: *not clearly understood or sensed*

conceivable – możliwy do wyobrażenia, do pomyślenia: *capable of being understood, believed, or imagined; possible*

to swirl – wirować: *to cause to move with a twisting or whirling motion*

glitter – lśnić, błyszczeć: *to sparkle brilliantly; glisten*

concrete – beton: *a hard, strong construction material consisting of sand, pebbles, broken stone etc.*

par. 3

tiny – malutki, malusieńki: *very small; minute*

to sacrifice – poświęcić: *to give up for the sake of something else*

sickly – mdły, mdlący: *causing nausea*

to gulp – łykać, chłęptać: *to swallow greedily or rapidly in large amounts*

to crumple – zmiąć, zgnieść: *to crush together or press into wrinkles*

par. 4

junk shop – sklep ze starociami, używanymi rzeczami: *a shop that sells cheap secondhand goods*

overwhelming – nieprzeparty, przemożny, przytłaczający: *overpowering in effect or force*

to suck – ssać, wsysać: *to draw (liquid) into the mouth by movements of the tongue and lips that create suction*

tremor – drzenie: *a nervous quiver or thrill*
 to falter – wahać się: *to hesitate in purpose or action*

par. 5

to itch – swędzieć: *to have a desire to scratch*
 unbearably – nieznośnie: *intolerably*
 blaring – ryczenie, dudnienie: *unpleasantly loud and penetrating sound*
 to comfort sb – pocieszać kogoś: *to ease the grief or trouble of / console*
 cramp – skurcz: *a sudden painful involuntary tightening of muscle*

par. 6

presumably – przypuszczalnie: *it seems likely/probably*
 a freckled face – piegowata twarz: *marked with small brownish spots on the skin*
 peculiar – dziwny: *unusual or eccentric; odd/strange*
 hostility – wrogość: *a hostile state, attitude, or action*
 burly – tęgi, krzepki: *having a large or strong body*

par. 7

hideous – ohydny, okropny, paskudny: *repulsive, especially to the sight; revoltingly ugly*
 traitor – zdrajca: *one who betrays one's country, friends, etc.*
 purity – czystość: *freedom from sin or guilt; innocence*
 treachery – zdrada: *the act or an instance of wilful betrayal*
 diaphragm – przepona
 plausible – prawdopodobny, możliwy: *valid, truthful*

par. 8

frenzy – szal, szaleństwo: *temporary madness or delirium, a craze*
 loathing – wstręt, obrzydzenie, odraza: *great dislike; abhorrence*
 invincible – niezwycięzony: *unconquerable*
 to fling-flung-flung – rzucać, ciskać: *to throw with violence*
 quiver – drzeć, drgać: *tremble, quake, shudder*

par. 9

to flog – chłostać, smagać: *to beat severely with a whip or rod*
 to utter – wymówić, wypowiedzieć: *pronounce or speak*
 din – hałas, wrzawa: *a loud noise*
 chant – skandowanie / powtarzanie chórem: *a monotonous rhythmic call or shout, as of a slogan*
 savage – dziki: *not civilized; barbaric*
 deliberate – celowy: *intentional*

par. 10

contempt – pogarda: *disrespect / a feeling of aversion or antipathy*
 sequel – następstwo, ciąg dalszy: *something that follows; a continuation*

rumour – pogłoska, plotka: *information, often a mixture of truth and untruth, passed around verbally*

brotherhood – braterstwo: *the state or relationship of being brothers / fellowship*

scribbles – bazgroły: *hasty or careless writing*

refrain from – powstrzymać się od czegoś: *to hold oneself back*

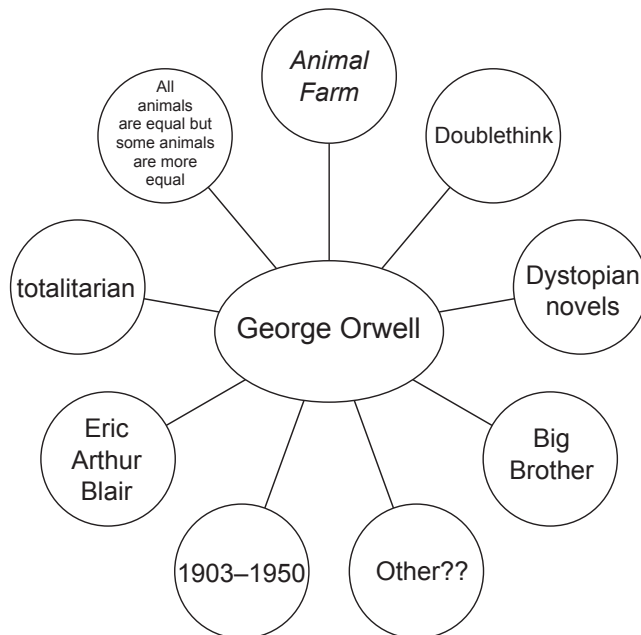
par. 11

futile – daremny, bezowocny, czczy: *having no result or effect / useless*

thump – walić, grzmocić: *to strike or beat with something thick or heavy so as to cause a dull sound*

SEMANTIC MAPPING

Dystopian: showing human misery as squalor, oppression, disease, and overcrowding; having anti-utopian, negative elements. Dystopian fiction creates a nightmare world in which justice, freedom and happiness are suppressed.



Major works:

1933 – *Down and Out in Paris and London*

1934 – *Burmese Days*

1935 – *A Clergyman's Daughter*

1936 – *Keep the Aspidochelone Flying*

1937 – *The Road to Wigan Pier*

1938 – *Homage to Catalonia*

1939 – *Coming Up for Air*

1945 – *Animal Farm*

1949 – *Nineteen Eighty-Four*

QUIZ – STUDENT’S COPY

CHAPTER I

GR. A

1. Complete the slogan:

War is Peace

Freedom is Slavery

Ignorance is...

2. The current name of Britain is ... one of the provinces of Oceania.

3. Winston worked in the Ministry of...

4. When facing the telescreen it was advisable to show a ... face.

- a. sad
- b. broadly smiling
- c. slightly optimistic

5. The most dangerous was:

- a. police patrols
- b. the Thought Police
- c. the telescreen

6. Winston didn't use the lift to get to his flat in Victory Mansions because:

- a. the lift was broken
- b. the lift didn't work because of the power cut
- c. he preferred to climb the stairs on foot

GR. B

1. Complete the slogan:

War is Peace

Freedom is ...

Ignorance is Strength

2. Give the name of the Ministry of Peace in Newspeak:

3. The Ministry of Love was supposed to maintain law and

4. The most common punishment for crimes against the Party was either the death penalty or twenty-five years in a

5. Winston started writing his diary in a book with smooth creamy paper which he had bought for \$2.50 in a

6. A young woman wore a narrow scarlet sash round her waist which was an emblem of the

GR. C

1. Winston disliked young women because:

- a. they were proud and rude
- b. they were the most enthusiastic supporters of the Party and blindly obeyed it
- c. they were stupid as they promoted anti-sex behaviour

2. Goldstein was:

- a. a deadly enemy of the Party
- b. a top member of the Party
- c. Winston's enemy

3. Goldstein's face resembled the face of a (*provide a name of an animal*).

4. Among the people who came for the Two Minutes Hate was a man named, a member of the Inner Party.

5. An underground network of conspirators who wanted to overthrow the State was called

6. Complete the quotation below with ONE word:

'He had committed — would still have committed, even if he had never set pen to paper — the essential crime that contained all others in itself.'
....., they called it.

TEACHER'S COPY – QUIZ

gr. A

1. Strength, 2. Airstrip one, 3. Truth, 4. C, 5. B, 6. B

gr. B

1. Slavery, 2. Minipax, 3. order, 4. forced-labour camp, 5. junk shop, 6. junior anti-sex league/chastity

gr. C

1. B, 2. A, 3. Sheep, 4. O'Brien, 5. the brotherhood, 6. thoughtcrime

QUOTATIONS

George Orwell about the Warsaw Uprising – his words from 1st of September 1944:

“I would like to protest against mean and cowardly attitude of the British press towards the uprising in Warsaw (...). In general an impression was created, that the Poles deserve to be beaten, even though they were doing exactly all of this, to which allies broadcasting stations were calling them for several years (...). This is my message for leftist journalists and for intelligence – in general. Remember, that one always pays for his dishonesty and cowardice. Don’t even think, that for years on end you will be shoes licking servants of the Soviet regime, and then suddenly you will return to the spiritual decency.”

- But if thought corrupts language, language can also corrupt thought.
- All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.
- Doublethink means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one’s mind simultaneously, and accepting both of them.
- During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act.
- Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it.
- Early in life I had noticed that no event is ever correctly reported in a newspaper.
- Freedom is the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.
- I doubt whether classical education ever has been or can be successfully carried out without corporal punishment.
- If you want a vision of the future, imagine a boot stamping on a human face – forever.
- In our age there is no such thing as ‘keeping out of politics.’ All issues are political issues, and politics itself is a mass of lies, evasions, folly, hatred and schizophrenia.

Source: http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/g/george_orwell.html#ixzz1lhnkdVVY, access: 10 March, 2016.

STUDENT'S COPY – THEMES

THEMES:

- the Party
- Winston Smith (appearance, job, inner conflict)
- the world Winston lives in (streets, buildings, the general mood)
- Emmanuel Goldstein
- Two Minute Hate
- O'Brien
- Big Brother
- the telescreen
- the four Ministries
- proles
- a scarlet sash

TEACHER'S COPY – HIGHLIGHTS ONLY!

Themes in Chapter 1

THEMES:

- the Party
- Winston Smith (appearance, job, inner conflict)
- the world Winston lives in (streets, buildings, the general mood)
- Emmanuel Goldstein
- Two Minute Hate
- O'Brien
- Big Brother
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- the four Ministries
- proles
- scarlet sash

Ask them to underline key words for each theme.

The Party

The Inner party – the actual rulers. They wear black overalls (compare: O'Brien).

The face of the party is Big Brother.

Its slogans (par. 30):
 war is peace
 freedom is slavery
 ignorance is strength

Party's enemies: Emmanuel Goldstein, the Brotherhood (para 34) + everybody who does not follow the rules.

Methods used by the Party to control the people:

- psychological manipulation (The Two Minutes Hate / the telescreen)
- controlling information and manipulating history (more about it in other chapters)
- creating a new language (Newspeak) and thus controlling people's mind: eg. words like: doublethink, thoughtcrime, names of the four Ministries (Miniplenty, Minitrue, Miniluv and Minipax), Ingsoc = English socialism, etc. [there are many more examples in other chapters + The Newspeak Appendix]

They punish their enemies by sending them to a forced-labour camp or by a shot in the head. Then they destroy everything that belonged to them: 'you were abolished, annihilated: vaporized was the usual word' (par. 39). They have the Thought Police at their service.

Winston Smith – The main character:

(par. 3: appearance)

He is 39 and suffers from varicose ulcer (owrzodzenia żylakowe), belongs to the Party, he is an outer Party member; he wears blue overalls. (Par. 3): a smallish, frail figure (...). Sanguine face, fair hair. He works in the Ministry of Truth, in the Records Department. In further chapters we learn that his job is to alter or 'rectify' all past news articles which have since been 'proven' to be false.

He resents the authoritarian regime of the Party and tries to rebel. To escape from reality he drinks alcohol (Victory Gin), smokes cigarettes (Victory Cigarettes) and starts writing a diary, which is illegal.

Torn by inner conflict of emotions, among others:

- hatred against the authority – changes later into adoration: (par. 28) At those moments his secret loathing of Big Brother changed into adoration, and Big Brother seemed to tower up, an invincible, fearless protector, standing like a rock against the hordes of Asia (...). At the end of the chapter the emotion of hatred returns and Winston scribbles 'Down with Big Brother' many times.
- hatred and sexual drive towards the girl from the Fiction Department.

The world Winston lives in:

(par. 1, 2, 4 and 6)

The action is set in London (par. 6) where there are:

- heaps of rubble
- wooden dwellings like chicken-houses
- windows patched with cardboard
- a sorry sight
- squalid streets
- wind, rubbish
- posters of Big Brother everywhere
- dust
- bad smell
- cold
- gloomy
- four tall buildings dominating the landscape

Emmanuel Goldstein:

(par. 25, 26 and 30)

- a chief enemy of the Party, probably does not exist
- with a small goatee beard
- his voice has 'a sheep-like quality'
- he: 'produced fear and anger automatically' (par. 27)

Two Minutes Hate:

(par. 22, 27, 28, 30 and 32)

Meetings in front of the telescreen to evoke and control bad emotions, ‘general delirium’. People start behaving like savages. They chant slogans. They are subjected to the Party’s propaganda and brainwashed by it.

O’Brien:

(par. 23 and 33)

- a member of the Inner party
- large, burly, with a thick neck
- intriguing
- creates an impression that he may be on Winston’s side

In other chapters we learn that he is the main oppressor and a cruel tormentor.

Big Brother:

(par. 2, 4, 31 and 30)

- exists only in posters
- ‘with a heavy black moustache and ruggedly handsome features’ (par. 2)
- The face of the Party
- Omnipresent
- Considered to be ‘My Saviour’ (par. 31) by many people

The telescreen:

(par. 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 24)

- present in every house
- monitors people, broadcasts propaganda: ‘fruity voice was reading out a list of figures which had something to do with the production of pig-iron’ (par. 3), ‘(...) and the overfulfilment of the Ninth Three-Year Plan’ (par. 5)

Winston cunningly sits in the alcove of his room to remain outside its range (par. 12).

The Four Ministries:

(par. 7, 8, 9)

- sinister and frightening (more about them in other chapters)

Proles:

(par. 19)

- the working class of Oceania
- the proletariat
- despised by the Party

More about proles can be found in other chapters.

A scarlet sash:

(par. 22 and 29)

- worn round the waist by girls as an emblem of the Junior Anti-Sex League, symbol of chastity
- sexual behaviour was strongly discouraged by the Party

More about it in other chapters.

STUDENT'S COPY

Circle one of the two options given. There is an example at the beginning (0).

George Orwell

George Orwell did not expect to be a successful writer. In fact he (0) ...spent/followed... much of his life anticipating failure. In an essay about his schooldays, he wrote that until he was about thirty he always planned his life with the (1) ...forecast/expectation... that any major undertaking was bound to fail. He wanted success and worked hard to (2) ...reach/achieve... it but he was never quite able to give up the (3) ...notion/impression... that his efforts would always come up short. At the age of 46, (4) ...shortly/soon... before he died, he confided in his private notebook that a deep (5) ...sense/thought... of inadequacy had haunted him throughout his career. He stated that there had been (6) ...totally/literally... not one day in which he did not feel that he was being lazy, that he was (7) ...behind/backwards... with his current job and that his rate of work was miserably small. Even in the first months after the tremendous success of *Animal Farm*, he was quick to (8) ...lower/discount... his achievement, declaring that his next book was bound to be a failure.

Of course, no conscientious author is ever completely (9) ...cheered/satisfied... with their work, but Orwell's doubts were so (10) ...persistent/convinced... that he often appeared more comfortable (11) ...admitting/allowing... defeat than acknowledging success. In 1940, after the publication of his eighth book, he (12) ...answered/responded... to an admiring letter from another writer by (13) ...going/moving... out of his way to show the man why he was not (14) ...capable/worthy... of his praise. "It makes me laugh," he wrote, "to see you referring to me as 'famous' and 'successful'. I wonder if you (15) ...appreciate/acknowledge... how little my books sell!"

TEACHER'S COPY – KEY

GEORGE ORWELL: gapped text

1. expectation, 2. achieve, 3. notion, 4. shortly, 5. sense, 6. literally, 7. behind, 8. discount, 9. satisfied, 10. persistent, 11. admitting, 12. responded, 13. going, 14. worthy, 15. appreciate