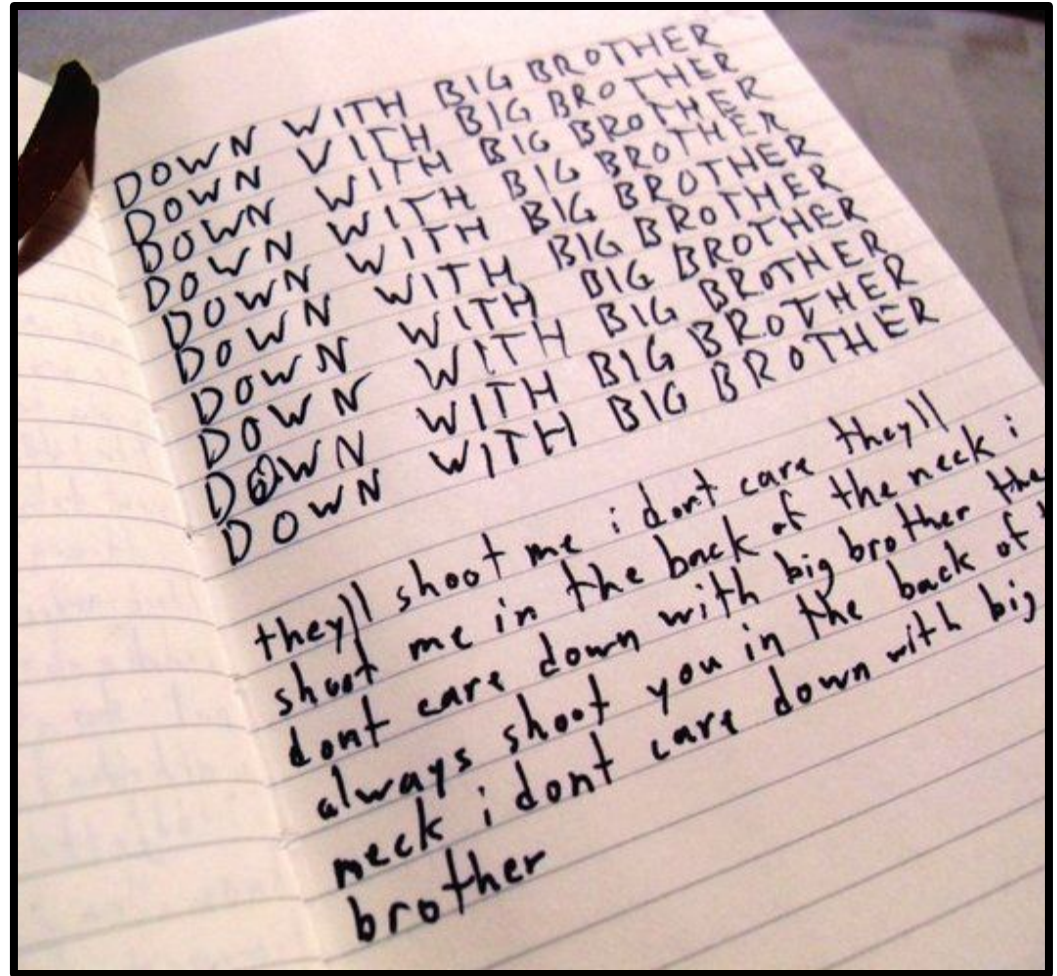


Journal Prompts

1984

Requirements

- 12 point
- Times New Roman
- Double Spaced
- ½ Page
- Dated



Journal Entry 1

The telescreen in Winston's apartment can be dimmed but never turned off. Everything Winston says or does can be viewed by the Thought Police. Winston is never sure that he is being watched, but he knows that it is always a possibility.

To what extent has Orwell's vision of the telescreen, which invades the privacy of Winston's home, become a reality in our modern homes?

Winston knows that "if detected it was reasonably certain that [owning the diary] would be punished by death, or at least by twenty-five years in a forced-labor camp." Knowing the danger, he purchases the diary.

Write about a time that you may have done something impulsively that you knew to be dangerous.

Journal Entry 2

Some say that without language, complex thoughts are impossible. In fact, most agree that language is what makes humans capable of such great accomplishments. The notion behind Newspeak is that by simplifying and dumbing down language, you simplify and dumb down those who use it.

Do you think this is possible? R u concrnd that txts r a modrn frm of Nwspk?

Despite a growing population in the US, fewer marriages are occurring each year. Meanwhile, the divorce rate continues to increase.

What is your view on marriage? Do you want to get married? When? Why? Do you think divorce is hurting the family unit, or is it an important option for failing marriages?

Journal Entry 3

When defending the government's invasion of personal privacy, people often say, "If you have nothing to hide, then you have nothing to be worried about."

Does that statement adequately defend government policies that violate personal privacy? Do you agree with that statement? Why might a person still be worried about protecting their privacy, even if they have nothing to hide?

Who we are and who we become relies heavily on our environment and circumstances.

How have Julia's circumstances shaped her? What is your reaction to Julia? What do you think of her character? Do you admire her? Despise her? Do you trust her or are you suspicious of her?

Journal Entry 4

Winston is severely tortured for his actions. While Winston's treatment seems inhumane, torture is still used in some situations today.

Do you think it is acceptable for the government and police to use torture to extract information from prisoners? Explain your answer in detail.

After placing his trust in the wrong people, Winston now finds himself in quite the predicament.

Describe a time when you were forced to trust someone. Did they uphold your trust or were you let down? What does it take for someone to earn your trust?

Journal Entry 5

Consider your opinion of politics. How would you describe your political beliefs: Democratic, Republican, Independent, a mixture of beliefs, not political, something else?

Explain what you believe are some duties of the government and why you feel that way. What would you change about the ways the government works?

Think about how technology affects the Party's ability to control its citizens.

In what ways does the Party employ technology throughout the book? Do you think computers and technology will prevent or create a 1984-like society? Explain with examples.
