WV TREE Resource:

English Language Arts

Resource Name: **Big Brother vs. Little Brother: Updating Orwell’s ‘1984’**

Grade Level(s):  5th Grade  6th Grade  7th Grade  8th Grade  9th Grade

10th Grade  11th Grade  12th Grade

Resource Summary/Overview: How does George Orwell’s vision of technology and its uses in “1984” compare with today’s reality? How have concerns about privacy and freedom expressed in the novel been manifested in the contemporary world? In this lesson, students compare and contrast the world, people and technologies of “1984” with those of today and create a treatment for a modern film, print or stage adaptation that revolves around current technologies.

Length: 5-8, 45 minute class periods

Domain(s) Addressed:  Reading  Writing  Speaking/Listening  Language

West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Standards:

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| ELA.12.7 | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a variety of literary texts, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (Include Shakespeare as well as other authors.) |
| ELA.12.13 | Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), critically evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (Include at least one play by Shakespeare and one play by an American dramatist.) |
| ELA.12.22 | Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.   * Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing multiple point(s) of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events. * Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters. * Use and evaluate a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution). * Use precise words and phrases, effective details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences events, setting, and/or characters. * Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative. |
| ELA.12.31 | Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, and/or orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and analyzing any discrepancies among the data. |
| ELA.12.35 | Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grade 12 Language standards for specific expectations.) |
| ELA.12.39 | Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.   * Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase. * Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., conceive, conception, or conceivable). * Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, and/or thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, its etymology, or its standard usage. * Verify the initial determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary). |

Delivery Method(s):  Direct Instruction  Whole Group  Pairs  
  Small Group  Computer-based  Individual  
  Other (explain): Click here to enter text.

Resource Materials:  Text(s)  Handouts  Media  Rubric

Other (explain): Links to texts, video, and additional resources are available.

Resource Purpose(s):  Engage/Activate  Introduce Topic/Skill  Review Topic/Skill

Formative Assessment  Summative Assessment

Reinforce Skill  Enrichment  Intervention/Support

Other (explain): Click here to enter text.

Instructor Notes: This resource contains a variety of activity ideas that may be used before, during, after, or instead of reading the novel 1984. <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/21/big-brother-vs-little-brother-updating-orwells-1984/>