



Oh, Brave New World!

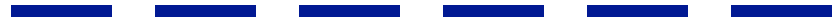
Utopia and Dystopia in Literature



- A dog running backwards through a big rock concert. (5)



- Carnival features one in bizarre drag with a planet on the outside. (5, 4)



- Free from the terrible curse around the orient.
(6)



- Your average spiritualist. (6)



Utopia

- Essentially, utopia means “good place” and dystopia means “bad place.”
- A utopia has come to represent an ideal way of life; an ideal country.
- Utopian literature generally falls into two types:
 - ideal country discovered by a traveller
 - future fantasy which is technologically advanced
- Some famous examples of utopian literature:
 - *Utopia* Sir Thomas More
 - *Erewhon* Samuel Butler
 - *Gulliver’s Travels* Jonathan Swift



Real Utopias

- Orwell witnessed societies being founded on a set of ideals.
 - Spain
 - Nazi Germany
 - USSR
- Throughout 20th century, attempts were made to build new, better societies:
 - China
 - Israel
 - Iran
 - The EU
- Will 21st century see attempts at creating Islamist utopia?



Dystopia

- Dystopia is the opposite of utopia and has come to represent a society that readers find abhorrent.
- Dystopias are often set in the future and can function as “warnings.”
- Our moral and intellectual responses to dystopias are disagreeable.

How does this extract develop the setting of the novel?



Extract: p29

The sun had shifted round, and the myriad windows of the Ministry of Truth, with the light no longer shining on them, looked grim as the loopholes of a fortress. His heart quailed before the enormous pyramidal shape. It was too strong, it could not be stormed. A thousand rocket bombs would not batter it down. He wondered again for whom he was writing the diary. For the future, for the past -- for an age that might be imaginary. And in front of him there lay not death but annihilation. The diary would be reduced to ashes and himself to vapour. Only the Thought Police would read what he had written, before they wiped it out of existence and out of memory. How could you make appeal to the future when not a trace of you, not even an anonymous word scribbled on a piece of paper, could physically survive?

How does this extract develop the setting of the novel?



Extract p30

Curiously, the chiming of the hour seemed to have put new heart into him. He was a lonely ghost uttering a truth that nobody would ever hear. But so long as he uttered it, in some obscure way the continuity was not broken. It was not by making yourself heard but by staying sane that you carried on the human heritage. He went back to the table, dipped his pen, and wrote:

To the future or to the past, to a time when thought is free, when men are different from one another and do not live alone—to a time when truth exists and what is done cannot be undone:

From the age of uniformity, from the age of solitude, from the age of Big Brother, from the age of doublethink -- greetings !

He was already dead, he reflected. It seemed to him that it was only now, when he had begun to be able to formulate his thoughts, that he had taken the decisive step. The consequences of every act are included in the act itself. He wrote:

Thoughtcrime does not entail death: thoughtcrime IS death.

Now that he had recognized himself as a dead man it became important to stay alive as long as possible. Two fingers of his right hand were inkstained. It was exactly the kind of detail that might betray you.



Have you read/seen?

- *Blade Runner*
- *Brave New World*
- *Minority Report*
- *The Running Man*
- *Surrogate*
- *The Handmaid's Tale*
- *Bend, Sinister*
- *A Clockwork Orange*

Conventions of Orwellian dystopias

- Leader claims to be interested in the welfare of citizens.
- A secret police exists to control the citizens. Most cooperate voluntarily. Rule by fear.
- Regime is brutal and tolerates no dissent.
- Society is stratified; those at the top have privileges.
- Key technique early in text is “defamiliarisation.”
- Technology is a key tool of control.
- Unfulfilling and abhorrent from the reader’s perspective.



Plot structure (I)

- Protagonist, who is a non-conformist, living in conflict with the conformist society.
- Consider basic plot development:
 - Exposition
 - Complication
 - Climax
 - Resolution
- Consider other plot theories (eg Todorov)



Plot structure (2)

- Exposition is lengthy.
 - Reader is uncomfortable. Unfamiliar with setting. Few details revealed. Interest is piqued.
 - A number of chapters reveal details about the setting.
 - Plot-wise, little happens: events illustrate character or setting and show that the protagonist is an outsider.
- Complication.
 - Obvious: the protagonist conflicts with setting.
- Crisis and denouement.
 - Often ends badly for protagonist. Often a “disillusionment plot” and protagonist is defeated by the system.



Tasks - think

- What is the dominant tone in Part One and how does Orwell create this tone?
- What is the tone in the first two chapters of Part Two and how does Orwell create this tone?
- Why is Part One so long (107 pages) considering very little happens other than exposition?



Tasks - homework

- Set yourself a suitably challenging task and complete it brilliantly.
 - IOP
 - Guided Literary Analysis
 - Essay
- Use the aims/targets/feedback from recent work.

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?



The matter of credibility

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'Big brother' schooling predicted

By Gary Eason
BBC News, at the ATL conference in Torquay

Education in England could soon become "Orwellian" under a regime of targets, testing, tables, inspections and observation, teachers' leaders warn.



Julia Neal warns of an over-monitored culture in school

Julia Neal, president of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, said this was the likely outcome of over-measured, over-monitored schools.

The focus is on tests and targets, not personalised learning, she told her union's annual conference in Torquay.

Ms Neal imagined a sinister future with CCTV surveillance in every classroom.

'Big brother'

Ms Neal - a history teacher in Torquay Grammar School for Girls - imagines the world in 2013, when children are tested on a rolling basis and take regular mock tests to make sure they are ready for the real ones.

"Failure to demonstrate a year-on-year improvement in pass rates would be just too embarrassing," she says.

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RELATED INTERNET LINKS

- Association of Teachers and Lecturers

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Last Updated: Wednesday, 6 February 2008, 08:48 GMT

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Borough introduces talking CCTV

Talking CCTV cameras which give warning messages to people dropping litter or committing anti-social behaviour have begun operating in east London.



They are being used in 16 problem areas in the borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Footage is monitored from a control room and when an offence is seen the person can be told to stop by staff via a loudspeaker or pre-recorded message.

The council said the technology, which cost £25,000 to install, has been funded by a grant from the government.

Residents will also be confronted with messages asking them to keep their valuables safe, telling them that their behaviour is being monitored and asking them not to drop litter.

SEE ALSO

- 'Talking' CCTV scolds offenders
04 Apr 07 | England
- Talking CCTV to be 'wake-up call'
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China to deploy huge Big Brother surveillance network with Cisco's help

5TH JULY 2011 by FRANCIS TAN

China plans to put a network of 500,000 surveillance cameras in place around Chongqing to keep an eye on its citizens, with the help of Western tech and networking companies such as Cisco Systems Inc. The government claims the network will be used to prevent crime and monitor traffic, but the public sees it as another step towards a complete Big Brother culture in the country, the [Wall Street Journal](#) reports.

The system, dubbed "Peaceful Chongqing," is among the largest and most sophisticated video surveillance projects of its kind, which aims to cover half a million intersections, neighborhoods and parks over nearly 400 square miles. Chongqing's government will be investing more than \$800 million for the project and another \$1.6 billion will be coming from other unspecified sources, according to the report.



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Snowden: Orwell's '1984' 'nothing' compared to NSA spying

Dec. 25, 2013 at 12:30 AM | 0 comments



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5



LONDON, Dec. 25 (UPI) -- George Orwell's fictional Big Brother monitoring everyone's lives is "nothing" compared to surveillance today, U.S. secrets leaker Edward Snowden says on TV.

"Great Britain's George Orwell warned us of the danger of this kind of information," Snowden says, referring to Orwell's dystopian novel "Nineteen Eighty-Four," about a superstate in a world of perpetual war and omnipresent government surveillance that persecutes individualism and independent thinking as "thoughtcrimes."



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1984 INTERNET LISTS

7 sinister technologies from Orwell's 1984 that are still a threat

Thursday, June 28, 2012 - 8:34am



Technology is a wonderful thing, but in the words of Spider-Man's Uncle Ben, "With great power, comes great responsibility." If we are not careful, the technology we know and love could be used against us, even subtly. In the year 1984, Apple thought IBM was the bringer of "Big Brother." In reality, the technology of today better resembles George Orwell's dystopian vision than a 1980s era PC.

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FRIDAY, JAN 3, 2014 01:44 AM NZDT

Our Orwellian reality: Drone wars, surveillance, a lapdog media — and you

Our government lies to itself -- and to us. Like Edward Snowden, it is time for us all to stand up for our values

PATRICK L. SMITH



TOPICS: NSA, EDWARD SNOWDEN, JUDGE RICHARD LEON, RAY MCGOVERN, CIA, TECHNOLOGY NEWS, NEWS, POLITICS NEWS



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Ald could have

Video released by trucking companies using onboard cameras show just how dangerous New Zealand roads can be.

With 95% of all crashes involving driver error, the companies behind the cameras say they are capturing an accurate record of incidents and improving driving standards in the process.

Importer of Smart Drive, Haydn Bowbyes says it could help to lower the number of crashes on our roads.

"Ninety per cent of the clips we saw were people in cars who just don't know how to drive around trucks."

Bowbyes has installed more than 1,200 cameras into truck fleets all over the country.

The camera continually records, but when the truck brakes heavily, the previous 10 seconds and the following 10 seconds are saved permanently to the hard drive. The vision is then used to improve driver safety through extra training.



Source: ONE News

 [WATCH the video](#) (1:46)

Travelling CCTV in Nottingham

Nottingham City Council is introducing a new mobile CCTV car to the city's roads in its ongoing bid to reduce congestion.

The Toyota IQ will be deployed throughout the city to carry out enforcement of Nottingham's **bus lanes** recording motorists who drive in the lanes when restrictions are in place.



The car will also be used at locations where enforcement is quite difficult such as outside schools as well as monitoring the road network where **fixed cameras** do not always reach. This will include recording evidence of roadworks that are either being carried out without the permission of the City Council, or works that have overrun their time. The evidence will be used to fine these companies and will help to make sure that companies carry out work in a timely way in the future, helping to relieve congestion on our roads.

Councillor Jane Urquhart, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Area Working at Nottingham City Council, said: "Many motorists get frustrated when they see other drivers breaking the rules, such as driving in bus lanes or parking where they are causing an obstruction to others, and they want someone to do something about it. We are doing just that, by introducing the mobile CCTV car

Teacher in assault case calls for CCTV in all classrooms

Published Date: 14 March 2010

By Fiona MacLeod

Education Correspondent

THE Scots teacher at the heart of a pupil assault row has called for closed circuit TV cameras to be installed inside schools to combat unruly behaviour.

Michael Barile, from Dundee, last week won his appeal against his sentence for assaulting two boys in his class. The 52-year-old remains convicted of the offence.

In an exclusive interview with Scotland on Sunday, Barile said: "I would love to see schools have up-to-date facilities like CCTV cameras in schools. Who's got anything to be afraid of except badly behaved kids?"

He also said schools had brought about an increase in classroom violence by the way they manage unruly behaviour.

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Page last updated at 07:41 GMT, Thursday, 24 September 2009 08:41 UK

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Bus CCTV could predict assaults

By Dominic Casciani
BBC News home affairs

CCTV security systems could soon spot an assault on a bus before it happens, according to a major research project.

The system, part of which has already been tested in laboratory conditions, looks for suspicious behaviour associated with crime.

It would be able to send live CCTV pictures to operation rooms, from where controllers would be able to intervene.

The Queens University Belfast team say the software could make a significant impact on crime on transport.



The system would monitor suspicious behaviour on buses

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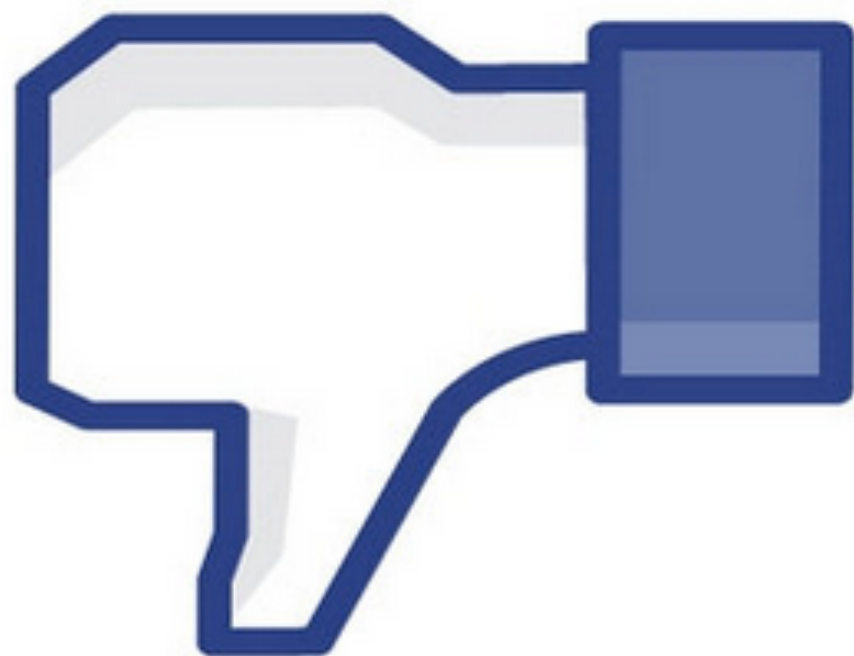
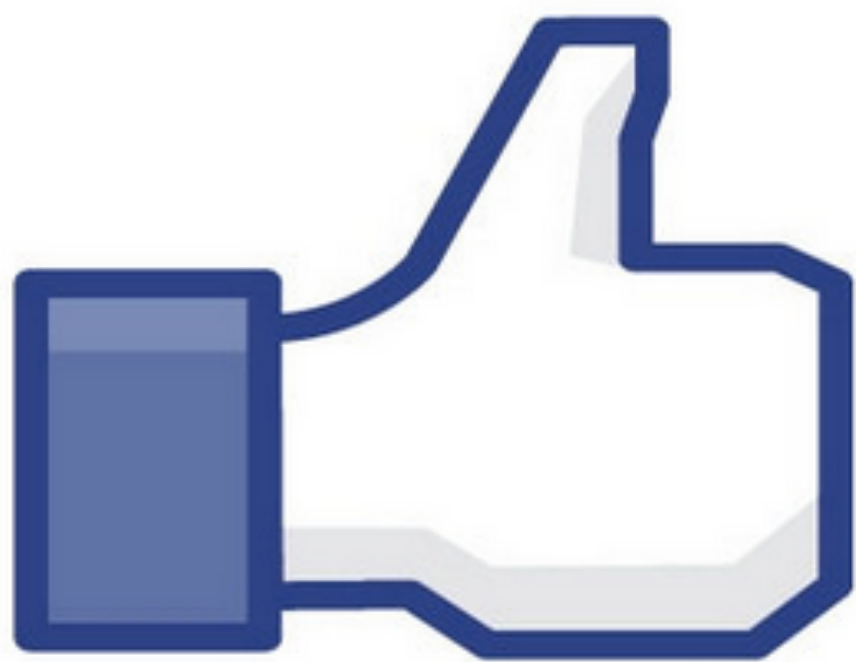
G A T T A C A

There is no gene for the human spirit



Verichips are implanted in the upper arm of patrons at the Baja Beach Club in Barcelona, Spain. Along with the Baja Beach Club is The Rotterdam Beach Club in the Netherlands, and the Bar Soba in Glasgow, Scotland, all who have successfully introduced the Verichip microchip implant as a form of payment.

* "Beautiful club-goers have a problem: If you're going to wear a halter top and micro-skirt, there's not much of anywhere to put a wallet. And who wants to carry a purse when you're there to dance? Luckily, a company called VeriChip this year unveiled a solution based on radio-frequency identification (RFID) technology. It's a slender glass capsule ... a computer chip, which stores a unique code that can identify an individual — sort of an electronic Social Security number." ***Get chipped, then charge without plastic — you are the card***




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- Eastasia
- Eurasia
- the terrorists
- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Syria?
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- North Korea?

Thought Crime

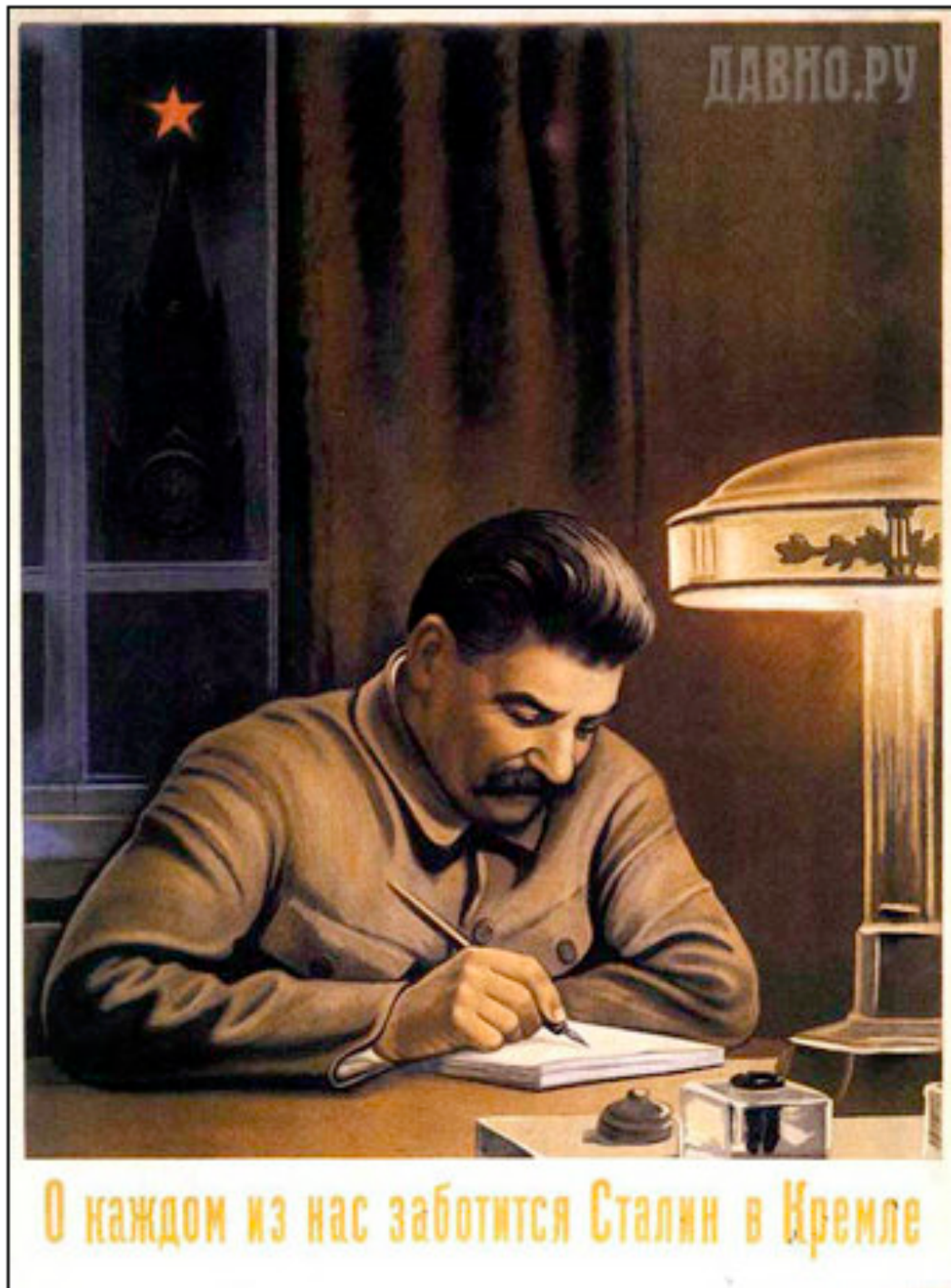
- Hate-speech and hate-crime laws.
- Laws on “incitement to racial hatred.”
 - Liam Stacey jailed for 54 days for tweeting abuse (2012).
- Laws on “incitement to religious hatred.”
- Holocaust denial is a serious crime in Europe.
 - Ernst Zuendel - was sentenced to prison for denying the Holocaust. (2007)
 - Is this punishment for disagreeing with the "official" version.
 $2+2=5$
- Climate-change denial.

Big Brother *is* Watching You

- GPS
- Microchip implants – pets
- Electronic tagging of criminals
- Digital voting at elections
- Selling data for marketing purposes
- Warranty cards
- You must register before proceeding
- Please enter username and password
- Electoral roll – occupation
- Biometric data on passports
- Photo car licence plate at petrol station
- “Black box” option for drivers
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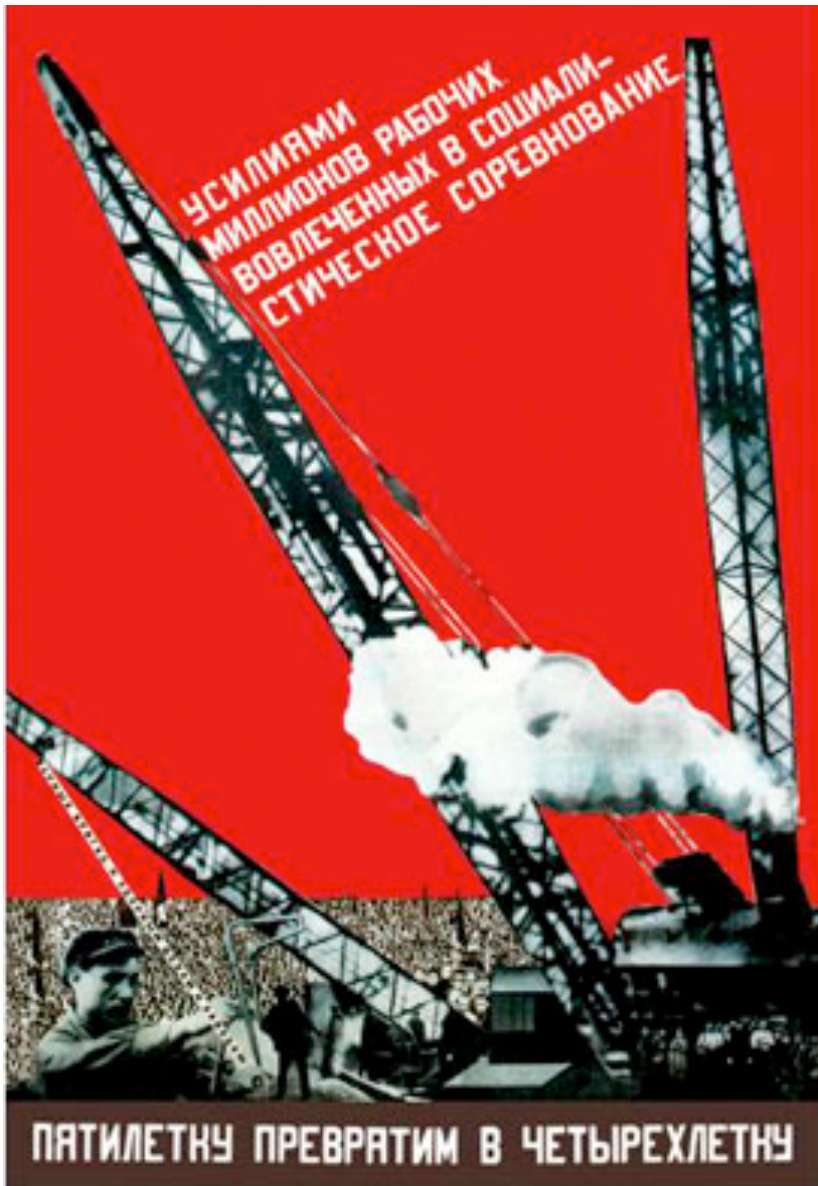
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$$2 + 2 = 5$$



- Key element of satire is ludicrous distortion. The obvious untruth of $2 + 2 = 5$ emphasises the power the state has to compel its citizens to believe the impossible.
- It's also true. Orwell may be referring to the USSR's Five Year Plans. The first FYP was achieved in 4 years, ergo $2 \text{ years} + 2 \text{ years} = 5 \text{ years}$.

$$2 + 2 =$$



- In some editions of the novel, in Part Three, Winston traces on the table $2 + 2 =$
- This is not what Orwell wrote but it may reflect that Winston is not truly a broken man.
- Since Orwell did have Winston write $2 + 2 = 5$, the ending is clearly not supposed to be ambiguous.

The Commissar Vanishes



Source: <http://polishgreatness.blogspot.co.nz/2012/02/ww2-propaganda-war-of-words-part-3.html>

Quiz for chocolate



1. What was King George VI's name?
2. In what month did the February Revolution take place?
3. What was King Edward VIII's name?
4. In what month did the October Revolution take place?
5. What color is the black box on aircraft?

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