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**Literary Criticism of the Book 1984 by George Orwell Using a
Historical Approach to Contrast and Compare Society Aspects
Displayed by the Author in the 50's and the Present Time**

Thesis Submitted to Obtain the Bachelor in English

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Dedication

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to investigate the literary criticism of the book *1984* by George Orwell using a historical approach to contrast and compare society aspects displayed by the author in the 50s and the present time. Furthermore, to acknowledge the similarities and the warning the author wanted to provide when the book was published.

Additionally, the researcher will analyze the book *1984* through selected theories, such as marxism, as well as a historical approach in order to consider the events that influenced the author to write the novel. The aim of the research is to provide the reader with a deeper understanding of the book and its message. Therefore, the investigation will conclude with a triangulation between fragments of the book, the theories used to analyze it, and the researcher's opinion on the matter.

Resumen

El propósito de esta investigación es realizar un análisis crítico del libro 1984 de George Orwell utilizando un enfoque histórico con el fin de contrastar y comparar los aspectos de la sociedad presente en el libro y las sociedades de la actualidad. Además de reconocer las similitudes y la advertencia que el autor deseaba brindar cuando el libro fue publicado.

Adicionalmente, la investigadora analizará el libro 1984 a través de teorías seleccionadas, tales como el Marxismo al igual que el enfoque histórico, con el fin de considerar los eventos que influenciaron al autor para escribir el libro. El objetivo de la investigación es brindar al lector una mayor comprensión del libro y su mensaje. Por lo tanto, la investigación concluirá con una triangulación entre fragmentos del libro, las teorías seleccionadas y la opinión del investigador en el tema.

Chapter I

Introductory Framework

Throughout history, the world has experienced different types of leaders as well as governments, that have led societies to their best peaks, but also to their lowest ones. As a consequence, many authors chose to base their stories in this type of environment. For instance, George Orwell wrote a dystopia about how the populations would be dominated by leaders that only created lies and stripped away individual thinking to keep the countries under control. As a result, freedom would disappear, and people's actions would be totally manipulated. How far from reality was this dystopian future? The book *1984* was published in the late 40s, and it caused a shock in the readers as this reality did not seem impossible.

Therefore, this paper will analyze the similarities between Orwell's totalitarian government, and the way in which current leaders rule the world as a democracy; but with some reflections about the totalitarian ideology. Also, it will be analyzed if the characteristics of the society created in *1984* has any resemblance to the way in which human beings behave and carry out their lives currently. Additionally, the amount of advertisement and propaganda, as well as the way in which they approach to the individual, makes it almost impossible for the population to avoid this influence.

Furthermore, there will be a deeper explanation and understanding of the reasons and the motives that led the author to write about the world 35 years after the book was published. Even though Orwell's book does not provide any solution to totalitarianism; it must be acknowledged how it successfully highlighted, how easy it is to take control over populations by leaving humans

without some precious characteristics, such as the ability to be happy, enjoy life, and even freedom of their own choices.

In the end, Orwell's warning made a statement that has lasted for seven decades, and that has been studied several times over the years. For this reason, it must be stressed that Orwell was able to provide the world a clear idea of how far humans can go in order to keep power. Also, how fragile the human mind really is because it does not matter the harm that can be done to societies in order to keep totalitarianism to benefit just a few. This is why it is important to consider how the time has passed, but *1984*' society continues to be seen as a non-so distant future.

1.1 Problem Statement

Nowadays, societies believe that the time in which the human mind was suppressed has finally gone, but the fact is that, people do not really notice when they are being manipulated as they currently receive any type of information that influences them. Undoubtedly, many individuals believe that they are consciously choosing by themselves, but the truth is that they are being led to make certain decisions. It should be noted that if we ignore this problem, human beings will be stripped away of their freedom as history has shown. Furthermore, red flags such as Orwell's literary work must be considered in order to identify when any resemblance to totalitarianism appears in the present time. For this investigation we will focus on What is the literary criticism of the book *1984* by George Orwell to contrast and compare society aspects displayed by the author and the present time according to the historical context?

1.2 Objectives of the Investigation

1.2.1 General Objective

To investigate the literary criticism of the book *1984* by George Orwell using a historical approach to contrast and compare society aspects displayed by the author in the 50s and presently.

1.2.2 Specific Objectives

1. To compare the characteristics of the totalitarian state presented in the book and the modern governments nowadays.
2. To identify the events that influenced George Orwell in the late 40s when writing the book *1984*.
3. To analyze the aspects found in the *1984*' society and the current situation of the world.

1.3 Justification of the Study

First, it must be considered how during difficult times, writers put their concerns and believes to reflect their thoughts without pointing out what they are referring to. Subsequently, George Orwell wrote the book *1984* in the late 40s, thinking what the future could be like if the political aspects and characters that dominated that time succeeded in their purposes. Nevertheless, history has shown that people such as Stalin encountered failure, and as a consequence, people might believe that totalitarianism is over, but is it really gone or coming back disguised as democracy? Thus, It is important to acknowledge the characteristics that a totalitarian state had in the past, and how there might be details that resemble it in today's governments.

Moreover, analyzing Orwell's dystopia can help the reader to get a deeper understanding of how totalitarianism works, and the many aspects that can change in a state ruled by this type of

government. One in which nobody is allowed to speak nor believe a different truth than the one provided. In addition, the book emphasizes how fragile the human mind really is, and how the masses can be manipulated by a few just by keeping important facts from them. Further, setting up an idea of how the population is expected to behave can turn an entire community into obedient individuals that believe all statements from the ones in control.

Additionally, it must be stressed that George Orwell's masterpiece was written 35 years ahead and when the year actually came along, people were still impacted by its message. The New York Times stated:

It contains no prophetic declaration, only a simple warning to mankind. Orwell did not believe that 35 years after the publication of his book, the world would be ruled by Big Brother, but he often proclaimed that *1984* could happen if man did not become aware of the assaults on his personal freedom and did not defend his most precious right, the right to have his own thoughts. (Den Bossche, 1984, p. 11)

Finally, it must be considered that the message that the author wanted to convey is still present, even though the year he selected has already gone. Undoubtedly, the human mind continues to be as fragile as it was, and the rulers of the world still believe that the only truth is the one they impose. As a consequence, the aim of this paper is to acknowledge the fact that the individual thought is the most important asset people have, and that it is an easy target for the leaders who do not think about the population, but only in the power they wish to obtain.

1.4 Antecedents

Several authors have emphasized how a totalitarian government must keep total control over the lives of the population in order to remain in power. For instance, Professor Cascante (2018) states that totalitarianism does not take democracy as a real political statement, because it

provides freedom of thought to the individuals and encourages misbehavior. Moreover, the leaders realized that the importance of their truths could be measured by the people who believed them, so imposing their ideals was easier if opposing them was against the law.

In addition to this, suppressing critical thought creates an environment in which the orders are not questioned and the beliefs are forever a reality. Furthermore, turning individuals into tools was one of the primary purposes of the totalitarian leader in Orwell's dystopia, as it was clear that taking the power of the nation was easier in difficult times. Consequently, being able to maintain the countries in this situation provides totalitarianism with one of its most important tools, collaboration of their people (but only in benefit of the ones in control.)

Also, totalitarianism opposes any type of education in the individuals and instead of this, it provides people with training in order to keep a default mindset as it attacks through propaganda and indoctrination. Similarly, this situation can be found in 1984 as it was a familiar environment for the characters to be given two minutes every day to let go and hate the people that the government taught them to hate. In particular, it must be contemplated that Orwell's book was written 70 years ago, but the relevance of the novel continues to be noticeable. Even though the novel was written so many years ago, one might think that something similar could happen in a near future. For this reason, his work can be seen as a warning of something that may occur.

As Pablo Peláez indicates in his paper: "Orwell himself almost described his novel as a satirical dystopia, claiming that he wrote it in order to make people aware of the dangers of some fascist and communist politics, some of which had already happened" (Peláez, 2015, P. 14.) Also, 1984 opened the door for future dystopias in which that type of totalitarianism was discussed and provided the final push to the contribution of previous authors in the same genre, such as Yevgeny Zamyatin (1924) and Aldous Huxley (1932.) Those authors along with George Orwell, mentioned

different methods used by the government in order to maintain their regime and to control every individual, one of the methods was a non-stop surveillance. Sadly, George Orwell could not know that in the UK over six million cameras keep an eye on the citizens, and nowadays it is only outnumbered by China.

Additionally, Orwell wrote not only a book about a distant and imminent future where humans have been conquered by others like them. He also provided new parameters for authors to start exploring how totalitarianism can inflict an entire population. Furthermore, providing humans with no hope and taking away their thoughts, make them easily manipulated, but it can also be seen that questioning information and keeping an open mind can lead a single individual to stand out from the crowd. This can be proved by all the individuals that have fought against oppressors throughout the years, such as Martin Luther King and why not, Winston Smith, Orwell's main character.

Also, Professor Groening stated that over 50 years later, Orwell's fiction piece continued to resemble the present. Further, he highlights how the political power used screens to control and watched every move of the citizens and states that on previous researches when the book was published, north Americans spent around four and a half hours in front of the TV. Moreover by 2009, that quantity increased and in 2017, north Americans used most of their time watching a screen than what they spent asleep.

Besides, in the book the screens were used to promote a single thought for the whole nation. A unique way of thinking, seeing the country, and seeing themselves. Yet, that might not be the objective of television nowadays, but its accomplishments are very similar. Moreover, people watch TV and start to compare themselves to what they are watching. At the end of the day. The watchers believe that their thoughts are of their own and not provided by the screen.

Another interesting point is the concept of Big Brother. As it is seen in the book, Big Brother plays the role of the leader of the Party, and the one controlling it. Furthermore, none of the characters would like to be seen misbehaving by him, and that was the same idea of the reality show created under the same name. Obviously, it was clear that the name had been chosen because of what it entails, but the professor explained how the people who were in the show, did not want Big Brother to find them misbehaving either. They did what was expected from them and behaved according to Big Brother's norms. Similarly, being in control of the screens is still a reality nowadays.

Moreover, it is possible to notice how the world created by Orwell is still an option in the ways in which totalitarian governments manage to change the words in order to limit thinking and avoid questions on their ideologies. Sebastian Schell (2015) analyzes how dictatorships were able to modify the language to support their ideas and keep the power for themselves. For example, Adolf Hitler was the leader of the Nazi party and maintained it that way by minimizing free thinking and lying about the Germany's political status to his followers. Therefore, Orwell knew that language and communication must be controlled, so that the only information available was the one the totalitarian leader had chosen. Moreover, great leaders throughout history have confirmed that societies create language, and that language defines society, in other words, it is almost a total control.

As it was mentioned before, Hitler manipulated the German language and (as well as Big Brother in 1984) shaped the minds of the population and stabilized his authority by creating words and eliminating the ones that were not useful for his goals. If this happened during Hitler's ruling, readers should be certain that it could happen again. Clearly, it is necessary to acknowledge the power that words have over a population and how the human mind can be easily influenced.

Nowadays, those things have not changed, and words are still the simplest way to reach people's minds. Undoubtedly, when writing 1984, George Orwell was thinking that time passed, but the masses would continue to operate according to the speeches of their leaders.

Therefore, it is important to acknowledge that over the years one of the primary tools of dictatorships has been propaganda, and technology. Jorge Salcedo (2017) indicated in his research that the easiest way to get through people is propaganda. Thus, in 1984' society, Big Brother had propaganda all over the place in order to keep his power and his thoughts present at all times. Clearly, reminding people how they were supposed to behave gave him even more control on their behavior and their thoughts. Nowadays, the goal of propaganda remains pretty much the same, but its tools have improved. When driving a car, it is possible to see any information, as well as when watching tv or listening to the radio. Also, news travel faster than they did before, making it more possible than it was before, thanks to technology.

Obviously, technology has become the strongest tool to emphasize to the population the way in which they should behave. Currently, people act almost the same and look almost the same. Therefore, individual thinking has lost most of its value, as people now wish to fit to what propaganda establishes. Moreover, people willingly show their personal lives to the world, and the majority believes that their value lies on how much they are seen by others. On the other hand, it is interesting to think that while in the book 1984 the main character wanted privacy from all the surveillance, most of the people now measure themselves and their success according to the way in which many people see or think about them.

1.5 Scope

1. The main goal of the topic is to point out how many years have passed since the book 1984 was written, and how the author continues creating an impact in the world and producing a reaction in the readers to what currently happens around them.

2. It is expected to highlight similarities between the totalitarian state exposed by Orwell, and the current governments that lead societies. The goal is to make the reader aware of the signals that may appear when they are not in control of their own decisions.

3. In order to get a deeper understanding of the book, this research expects to identify the reasons that influence the author to write a warning that is still talked 70 years of the book's publication.

4. It is essential to highlight how current societies resemble Orwell's dystopian society and emphasize how the relevance of individual thinking and fundamental rights of being free are the most valuable things human beings possess.

5. It is expected to provide the reader of this research, a deeper understating of how totalitarian states function and how they are able to find some similarities regarding political management.

6. The analysis is designed to provoke in the reader a response and a predisposition to continue discovering how Orwell's literary work is still relevant 70 years after its publication.

Chapter II

Theoretical Framework

Throughout a literary analysis, several aspects must be considered as many critics might not have the same perception of the text. The theories applied to this particular investigation were selected due to the context of the book, and the type of literature that the author used to publish. On the other hand, it does not mean that all of his texts should be analyzed through these theories. As was previously stated, the criteria of the person analyzing the book may change an entire investigation. Therefore, it is necessary to provide more information about the selected theories, so that the reader can understand the context of the analysis and achieve a better understanding of the reason behind this research.

2.1 Literary Theories and Approaches

When analyzing a book, it is necessary to understand every aspect that surrounds the story and its meaning. First, it is mandatory to know what the theory of literature is, and what it entails. Literature is defined as written works (such as poems, plays, and novels) that are considered to be very good and to have lasting importance (Merriam-Webster's dictionary, n.d. para. 1) and it can be classified according to different categories such as genre, language, subject matter, among others. In addition, Merriam-Webster (n.d.) defines theory as a set of principles that give sense and explain a phenomenon (para. 1). Now that those two concepts are clear, literary theory can be better explained.

Moreover, Encyclopedia of Philosophy (n.d.) defines Literary Theory as the set of scientific methods and ideas used to better understand literary texts. Furthermore, they are the principles that

are applied to the text in order to interpret its meaning, comprehend the author's motivation, and analyze some aspects of the book (para.1). In order to analyze Orwell's dystopia, three important theories will be used and further explained: the theories of marxism, deconstructionism, and the psychoanalytic theory.

2.1.1 The Marxist Theory

This theory was developed by Karl Marx (1818-1883,) and Friedrich Engels (1820-1895) both of them German sociologists who collaborated in the theory's foundation. Moreover, Marx created the theory by analyzing society, politics, and the economic situations of people. Additionally, Marx (n.d.) thought that the socioeconomic position influenced the experience of the people and affected their body, minds, and daily lives (para. 2). Furthermore, Marx's theory indicates that in a capitalist society there are two well-defined groups: the high class that owns most of the productive resources, and the proletariat that do most of the work for the other group in order to survive.

Within the theory, four main characteristics of the labor force, and the way it functions are highlighted.

- Workers cannot decide when to work or how to do it. Those type of decisions correspond to the higher class as well as the working conditions, and amount of labor.
- Workers have no control over their labor. It means that they just get a command on how to do their job, and sometimes they do not even know what happens with it after their work is done.
- Workers are put together with others to develop their labor, but indifference replaces most of the cooperation, and each of the individuals tries just to survive their work the best they can.

- Finally, as workers are set apart from every decision, control, and even true human connections, they will eventually lose all creativity and qualities that are characterize human behavior.

(Ollman, n.d. para. 8).

In addition, the political status of a certain place can highly affect and make the class difference even more notorious. Furthermore, another important characteristic of Marxism is that it recommends that the government should have total control over society. In other words, a totalitarian government in which the upper class, not only manages the goods, but also the political situation. This means that even if the low class would like to change the order in which the society was divided, it would be a difficult task to get rid of the political ideals, and the whole system that rules the territory.

In order to apply the marxist theory to a book analysis, all of the economic, social, and political aspects within the novel must be further explained. For instance, George Orwell's dystopia counts with a very clear class difference in which the higher group has most of the privileges, and the control of the nation. In addition, the Inner Party (name of the upper-class group in the book) maintains the country in a constant war status which provides them the opportunity of keeping people under control as they are going through difficult times.

Eventually, as the marxist theory explains, when a group has completed its oppression over the other one, a revolution occurs. As history has shown, the leader of this revolution is the lowest group in the society. When reading *1984*, it is mentioned that the main character (named Winston) knows exactly that for the world to change, the proles (name of the lowest-class group) must realize that being together a revolution against the Party is possible. Moreover, Winston states "If there is hope...it lies in the proles" (Orwell, 1949, p. 69). Although, it is also clear in the book that to keep

the proles under control, the Party makes sure that it does not count with strong political believes in order to avoid any political movement against the Party.

Furthermore, marxism analyzes how the literary text reflects the social situation, economic status, and political ideologies surrounding the author when the piece was written. Taking a deeper look into Orwell's circumstances, it is noticeable that his political believes were very clear and that the political regimes he fought against, made him want to write a novel that was almost a warning.

Again, a caution message about a not so distant future in which totalitarian governments drained the human force, and the capability to resist them. Additionally, a deeper analysis into this theory in the book will be further detailed as George Orwell's dystopia provides a great example of a literary text in which the marxist theory is clear from the start. Likewise, other theories can be used when investigating Orwell's *1984*.

2.1.2 Deconstructionism Theory

The Deconstructionism Theory started in the 1960s by the French philosopher Jacques Derrida (1930-2004,) and it questions the distinctions or oppositions at a philosophical level. The Encyclopedia Britannica (n.d.) states:

To "deconstruct" an opposition is to explore the tensions and contradictions between the hierarchical ordering assumed (and sometimes explicitly asserted) in the text and other aspects of the text's meaning, especially those that are indirect or implicit or that rely on figurative or performative uses of language. (para. 2).

Deconstruction highlights the fact that there is no absolute truth and that the world is a little more complex than what it looks like. Also, it emphasizes the role of the paradox, irony, and

analyzes the literal and figurative meanings that may go beyond of the reader's understanding. In addition, this theory indicates that the meaning is not fixed. Further, Catherine Turner states: "It arises from the constant process of negotiation between competing concepts. Rather than pursuing the truth of a natural origin, what deconstruction requires is the interrogation of these competing interpretations that combine to produce meaning" (Turner, 2016, para. 4).

Consequently, Orwell's novel provides a great example of how the Deconstructive Theory can be applied. This dystopia counts with a government that plays around with the mind of the characters in order to keep control. Furthermore, it manipulates language and uses totally opposite words in order to confuse people and their thoughts. For example, the slogan of the Party provides a deconstructive perspective from the very start of the book: "War is Peace / Freedom is Slavery / Ignorance is Strength" (Orwell, 1949, p.4). Clearly, this slogan confuses the characters to believe that even though the words do not mean the same, as long as the first prevails, the second will be accomplished.

As was mentioned, the totalitarian government intends to keep control of the nation by oppressing meanings such as freedom from what it actually is. Moreover, the previous sentence example provides to the reader a strange sentence in which opposites are seen as synonyms, and it is possible that the reader does not comprehend what this means at first. Although, as the story progresses, it is noticeable how the words tie the characters to stay obedient for their own good.

Definitely, a deconstructive analysis allows the reader to have a better understanding of the character's world and even of their own situation, as it is clear how this theory plays with the reader's minds as well. Furthermore, this is not the only theory related to the mind that can be applied when analyzing George Orwell's *1984*.

2.1.3 Psychoanalytic Theory

The founder of this theory was Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) as he was the one to create the concept of psychoanalysis. First, it is necessary to comprehend the concept in order to further understand the theory.

Psychoanalysis is defined as a type of therapy used in patients in order to get healing from repressive memories and emotions. Furthermore, the psychoanalytic theory is explained as “critical endeavor that seeks evidence of unresolved emotions, psychological conflicts, guilts, ambivalences, and so forth within what may well be a disunified literary work” (Delahoyde, n.d.). Additionally, Freud created a model of the human mind that co-existed with his previous thoughts and that are still an important part of the psychoanalytic theory. They are explained below.

- Id: The id operates at an unconscious level and focuses solely on instinctual drives and desires. Two biological instincts make up the id, according to Freud: Eros, or the instinct to survive that drives us to engage in life-sustaining activities, and Thanatos, or the death instinct that drives destructive, aggressive, and violent behavior.
- Ego: The ego acts as both a conduit for and a check on the id, working to meet the id’s needs in a socially appropriate way. It is the closest to reality and begins to develop in infancy.
- Superego: The superego is the portion of the mind in which morality and higher principles reside, encouraging us to act in socially and morally acceptable ways. (McLeod, 2017, para. 9)

When reading *1984*, it is noticeable how the human mind plays an important role throughout the whole novel. Furthermore, the Party, not only controls information for the conscious part of the character’s minds, but also truly influences the unconscious side, as they

convince the population even when they are not realizing it. For instance, Winston (main character) is against the Party, so from a psychoanalytic point of view, the id would be the one in control.

Furthermore, Winston tries to survive (Eros as stated above) by following instructions and behaving as he is supposed to when he is being observed like in the two minutes of hate, but he also behaves dangerously destructive (Thanatos.) For example, when he goes to the prole's territory to purchase a diary and also writes in it, it can be considered extremely dangerous if someone finds out. Additionally, this theory analyzes the facts that influenced the author and how his own experiences as well as desires, had an impact when creating the book.

All of the previously mentioned theories provide a deeper understanding of what the dystopia is about, and how the author manages to create a piece of work with so many characteristics to analyze. Although the book *1984* was written a long time ago, it allows the reader to investigate all the facts and follow a historical approach in order to further understand what written work implies.

2.1.4 Historical Approach

Literary theories offer several approaches that can be taken into account when literary works are being investigated. In this case, a historical approach has been chosen in order to analyze George Orwell's *1984*. Due to the nature of the story, and the response of the public when the book was published, the historical approach could go deeper about what the author wanted to convey in his work, the social or historical situation at the moment it was written, and the significance of those aspects in order to understand the book.

Furthermore, Orwell wrote his book in times when totalitarian governments were a constant reality to the world's politics. In addition, the author himself went to war in an attempt to fight

these leaders that oppressed populations. Moreover, as totalitarianism was in one of its crucial moments, the author noticed how most of the population were workers, just as the proles that he portrayed in the book. Definitely, this means that the time he spent fighting those regimes helped George Orwell to imagine a future in which the human essence would be probably lost.

2.2 Themes, Symbols, Motifs

When analyzing literary works, some terms are of great importance as they help the reader to get a deeper understanding, not only about the motives or purposes of the characters, but also on the writer's intention when using such devices. Furthermore, it is important for an investigator and reader to consider these concepts. Themes, symbols, and motifs are really important for a literary analysis, and they will further be explained.

2.2.1 Themes

The theme is the main idea of the written work, and it can be directly stated or just implied in any way of the author's choice. Additionally, it is important to point out that the theme of a literary work is different from its subject. Furthermore, the subject is the topic in which the novel is based, for example, if witchcraft is the subject then what the author believes or wants to convey about it would be the theme. Moreover, Literary Devices (n.d.) provides the following example:

The theme of war has been explored in literature since ancient times. literary woks utilizing this theme may either glorify or criticize the idea of war. Most recent literary works portray war as a curse for humanity, due to the suffering it inflicts. Some famous examples include:

- War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy

- *Gone with the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell
- *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway

(para. 7.)

As the concept of theme has been covered, details on the theme of the book *1984* will be considered in this paper later on. Also, it is important to define and fully understand other literary elements that help the reader to analyze a book.

2.2.2 Symbols

Symbols are objects that are included in the text that represent something else. A symbol can be a material object that entails a non-material idea. Likewise, it can be a word that has a meaning different from its literal concept. Certainly, the idea of a symbolism is to provide a deeper meaning and gesture to some parts of the author's work. In addition, symbols change their meaning depending of the context and the person who reads the text, since each reader can understand and interpret it subjectively. *Literary Devices* (n.d.) provides the following example:

My Heart Leaps Up When I Behold (by William Wordsworth)

“My heart leaps up when I behold

A rainbow in the sky:

So was it when my life began;

So is it now I am a man;

So be it when I shall grow old, ...”

In this poem, the poet uses the rainbow as a symbol of hope and general wellbeing throughout his life. (para. 18)

Symbolism is an important part of any literary work, and it gives an opportunity to the reader, not only to capture the text's message, but also to take a look into the author's ideas, perspective, and the way of communicating a message. In addition to symbolism, there is another concept that should be considered.

2.2.3 Motifs

Motifs have a concept that is similar to symbols. They can be objects or ideas, but unlike the symbols, they are repeated throughout the story. Furthermore, while the symbol's goal is to help the reader understand an idea, the motif further explains and add details to the theme of the literary work. For this reason, for a not very experienced critic, symbols and motifs may be easily confused for non-experienced readers when analyzing a text. Literary Devices (n.d.) also provides a detailed example for a better understanding of the concept:

To Kill a Mockingbird (by Harper Lee)

The central idea of the co-existence of good and evil in Harper Lee's to Kill a Mockingbird is supported by several motifs. Lee strengthens the atmosphere by a motif of Gothic details, in recurrent images of gloomy and haunted settings, supernatural events, and a full moon. Literary Devices (n.d.) para. 11

The importance of all literary devices or concepts related to the analysis of a text, must be carefully explained. If not, the message that the author tries to convey can be misunderstood. In other words, this can totally change the view of the book for the readers. In addition to these concepts, it is also very important to take into account the author's biography.

2.3 Author's Biography

George Orwell has been known for over 70 years, and many people are not aware of the fact that this is not his real name. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica (n.d.) his name was Eric Arthur Blair, and he was born on June 25th, 1903 in a British colony that nowadays is India. His father, Richard Walmesley Blair worked on Civil Services while his mother Ida Mabel Limouzin Blair, stayed behind educating their children. Eric had a sister five years older than him, Marjorie, and they both moved back to England with their mother a year after he was born. At the time, it was common for families to return to their homeland when raising children, so they could enjoy a proper English Education (para. 1.)

2.3.1 Early Life

As it is traditionally done in England, George Orwell was sent to a rigorous boarding school in East Sussex where wealthy families also used to send their children. His family belonged to the lower-middle class. Later on, Orwell stated that those years in St Cyprian's (Sussex) had been terrible enough for him, and; therefore, he decided to write an essay in which he left very clear his bad experience. In the essay, entitled *Such, Such Were the Joys* (1953), he indicated that the treatment was better for the students with higher income, and he stated:

The rich boys had milk and biscuits in the middle of the morning, they were given riding lessons once or twice a week, Flip mothered them and called them by their Christian names, and above all they were never caned (para. 15).

George Orwell never needed any special treatment. He was able to keep his grades so good that he earned a prestigious scholarship to Eton College where he studied from 1917 to 1921. Then, in 1922, he was not going to attend college, so he enlisted himself in the Indian Imperial Police and left to Burma. Orwell spent five years there and he realized that there were many things that made him doubt of the British system. Afterwards, he wrote about his experiences in essays such as, *A Hanging* and *Shooting an Elephant*. In addition, he suffered a health crisis, so he returned to England in 1927 to finally become a true writer.

2.3.2 Early Writing Career

Arthur, as he was still known at that time, thought that he needed further life experience in order to fully become a writer. Shortly, after getting back, he left England again to live in places such as Paris but not surrounded by wealth. In the meantime, he worked as a dishwasher, and he even pretended to be a vagrant. After his experience about the way in which the British system was developed, he wanted to be surrounded by the poorest in order to have an actual perspective of reality. It was not until 1933 that he actually found his voice as a writer. Shmoop Editorial Team (n.d.) states:

His identity as a writer began to come together in 1933, when he decided to take the pen name George Orwell—a combination of the names of the current monarch (King George V, who sat on the British throne from 1910-1936) and a nearby river (the River Orwell, a major waterway of the East of England). (para. 5)

Later on, in that same year, George Orwell published his first book *Down and Out in Paris and London* which referred to his experiences living in Europe. Furthermore, he began to write

books about social differences and according to the Encyclopedia Britannica (2006) George Orwell moved to the north of England to live among miners and observed how they lived. Based on this experience, he wrote the book *The Road to Wigan Pier* in 1937. (para. 6.)

2.3.3 Adult Life

After those first publications, it was clear that socialism, totalitarianism, and political aspects started to be an important part of George Orwell as a writer, as well as his relationship with politics was part of his life. Furthermore, one of his most important moments in this political evolution was in 1937 during the Spanish Civil War.

That year, he went to fight as a volunteer on behalf of the Republican government. He fought for six months until he was shot in the throat and had to leave Spain. Undoubtedly, it was in then when he truly declared himself against totalitarian governments. Furthermore, Shmoop Editorial Team (n.d.) added that when Britain entered the war, George Orwell was excited because he wished that this would bring more people into socialism.

Then again, he tried to go to war in 1939, but he was rejected due to his poor health. Afterwards, he started supporting the war making radio propaganda by the BBC in 1941. Eventually, he became frustrated and left the BCC in 1943 complaining about the network. As his true calling was related to literature, Orwell became a well-known literary editor of the *Tribune* in that same year (para.8.)

In addition, one of his most popular books about totalitarianism, *Animal Farm* (in which he alluded Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union) was finished and ready to be published. Although, according to Shmoop Editorial Team (n.d.) the release of the book was delayed because the English publishers were afraid of offending populations with its release. After the book was published, it received positive commercial and critical reviews. Shortly after, George Orwell's health started to

fail rapidly as he was finishing the manuscript of his final and most important novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (para. 10.)

2.3.4 Personal Life

Orwell was married two times during his lifetime. First, he married Eileen O'Shaughnessy in June 1936, and they adopted a child named Richard Horatio Blair in 1944. The couple stayed together until his wife's death in 1945. Due to this situation, George Orwell's sister, Avril, helped him with his son. Later on, he proposed to editor Sonia Brownell in October 1949, and stayed married until the writer's passing. Her wife inherited all George Orwell's fortune and legacy.

2.3.5 Death

On December 1948, George Orwell checked himself into a sanatorium as he was diagnosed with tuberculosis. According to Shmoop Editorial Team (n.d.) *Nineteen Eighty-Four* was published in June 1949, and it became his last professional work as Orwell died in January 21st, 1950 from tuberculosis. As he requested, he was buried in a simple way with a marker that read "Here lies Eric Arthur Blair—Born June 25th, 1903—Died January 21st, 1950." He was 46 years old (para. 11.)

Even though, George Orwell left the BBC stating it was a bad experience, according to Biography (2016), artist Martin Jennings created and installed a statue honoring the writer outside the BBC studios in London. Additionally, the statue has a transcript that reads "If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear" (para. 26.)

2.3.6 Literature

George Orwell was able to leave a legacy that will continue to honor his commitment against social injustice for years to come. Moreover, he was an incredible writer who enjoyed what he loved to do only for a short time, but who did enough to become one of the most known writers worldwide. He wrote several literary works during his lifetime, and Esther Lobardi (n.d.) provides a list with some of his most relevant works.

Novels

- 1934 - *Burmese Days*
- 1935 - *A Clergyman's Daughter*
- 1936 - *Keep the Aspidistra Flying*
- 1939 - *Coming Up for Air*
- 1945 - *Animal Farm*
- 1949 - *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (para.1.)

Nonfiction Books

- 1933 - *Down and Out in Paris and London*
- 1937 - *The Road to Wigan Pier*
- 1938 - *Homage to Catalonia* (para.2.)

2.4 Plot

The following part is the book's plot. This has been taken, not only from the original literature that is being analyzed, George Orwell's novel (1949), but also from Spark Notes (n.d.) which offers the plot of the novel without any type of analysis. The most important information in the book appears below.

In April 1984, the main character Winston Smith, a pale and skinny 39-year-old man, goes back to his house for lunch. He lived on the 7th floor in an apartment building. Although, this was not a fancy building, it had a huge poster of the leader of the Party, Big Brother, it was a big heavily mustached face with a caption that read: BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU.” Winston felt that this was one of those pictures where the eyes follow him where he moved (Orwell, 1949)

In addition, almost all the time, there was a voice talking, somewhat like giving the news from a telescreen (similar to a tv,) and Winston was able to turn the volume down, but it could never be totally shut down. This type of telescreen was everywhere in private and public places, and only the members of the Inner Party (most privileged people) were able to turn it off. Moreover, this telescreen was not just to give information, but people could be seen and heard at any given moment without even realizing it. Clearly, it was an everyday practice to live thinking that somebody is watching you.

Furthermore, when Winston looked outside his window, he was able to see a giant poster similar to the one inside the building and another one that read “INGSOC” that’s English socialism. The police patrol kept control of the streets and looked inside the people’s houses trying to find any possible traitor or criminal. Although, Winston believed that the real threat was the Thought Police, those were the ones that looked through the telescreens all the time (Orwell, 1949) Moreover, Winston was able to see from his window the most important buildings of the city (London.) For instance, the Ministry of Truth, which was the place where he worked at, was a white and giant building that dominated the landscape. The Ministry had the Party Slogan in sight, and it read:

WAR IS PEACE
FREEDON IS SLAVERY
IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH (Orwell, 1949, p.4).

Besides, there were only three other buildings with a similar size, and they all were the Ministries that ruled the city. First, the Ministry of Truth, that handled all the media (news, education, arts, entertainment.) Second, the Ministry of Peace, which handled war affairs. Then, the Ministry of Love, that maintained the law and order and finally, the Ministry of Plenty, which managed the economic transactions. All of them had shorter names in Newspeak (which was the official language of Oceania, the country) Minitrue, Minipax, Miniluv, and Miniplenty (Orwell, 1949.)

Back to Winston's actions in his building, he got away from the window and took out a book from a drawer. He was always sure to give his back to the telescreen as he was extremely careful if he was going to do something that would be considered against the rules. Definitely, such book put him into trouble. A couple of days before this, he had found the book in the "free market", but Party members were not allowed to buy anything there, as that was where proles (people were neither Party members, nor enemies) had their stores.

The book was a diary that he considered beautiful, and for that reason he wanted to write something on it. At first, he did not know what to write, but suddenly he wrote the date and continued writing after that. Then he realized he had written the words: DOWN WITH BIG BROTHER several times. That day, he was pushed back to his house at lunch due to an incident that took place during the Two Minutes Hate. This was a period of the Party in which members could yelled and insult all the Party enemies that were seen on the telescreen. Usually, there was a

person in the clips all the time, Emmanuel Goldstein. Goldstein had been a member of the Party, but afterwards he betrayed it and became the leader of the revolution.

When people were getting ready for the Two Minutes of Hate, Winston saw the Anti-Sex League. This was an exclusive movement for women, and Winston disliked all women, especially the young ones because they were the most loyal followers of the Party. For them, sex was seen only as means of procreation for Party members but never for pleasure (Orwell, 1949). Winston always looked at one of the members, one with short dark hair, because he thought that she was the most dangerous one.

That day, she looked at him with a cold glance and left him thinking she might know that he had bought a diary and was about to commit a crime at lunch time. He was thinking this, but she just went to sit in front of the screen without saying a word. Later, Winston saw another person, this time a man named O'Brien, whom was a member of the Inner Party. He almost never saw him, but Winston believed that the political loyalties of O'Brien might not be so perfect. Moreover, he felt that there was something in his face that suggested some type of resistance (resistance due to the fact that most of the people believed everything the Party said and would never act against it.)

During the two minutes, Winston tried to be just as everybody and throw insults to the screen, but almost at the end of it, the face of Big Brother appeared. The way in which people chanted his name made him feel horror. Luckily, the two minutes passed almost as usual with the only difference that O'Brien was there and before the time was over, their eyes met. He knew, Winston was sure that they were both thinking the same thing. He was so sure that they both felt the same way, and he thought for a minute that they were both together in the same journey.

After the incident and after being back in his building, Winston continued with his life as if the two minutes incidents and his writing work had never happened. The next day, he returns to work as usual. For living, he did nothing special, Winston worked fixing stories that might get people to dislike the Party or that gave away too much information. He received information that was published in papers, books and then a piece of paper that contained the new story that he was supposed to write in order to delete the original.

Clearly, the Party not only controlled the present, but also the future, and although it sounded impossible, they could change the past as they wished. In addition, if there was someone who was an enemy to the Party, they erased any information that led to the person, and it was as if that person had never existed.

Furthermore, people were so controlled, that even if it was a co-worker, they could forget about them in an amazing amount of time (Orwell, 1949.) For instance, Winston had a co-worker named Syme with whom he used to have lunch with. Syme was not very clever to realize how smart he was. Winston was certain that a day would come in which the Party would make Syme disappear. Besides, Syme worked developing the dictionaries for the Newspeak, and he said that the main goal of the language was to make thoughtcrime literary impossible, as the words would not have opposites that allowed people to think differently from the ones that existed.

Back at lunch, while Syme was talking about the dictionaries, the brunette woman who was part of the Anti-Sex league was staring at Winston from the other part of the cafeteria. Consequently, Winston started to panic thinking that she might be on to him and his thoughtcrime. He started thinking of killing her as he was watching him. Shortly after that, Winston received a note from the brunette stating that she was in love with him and told him that her name was Julia. This part of the story is when the romance between them starts. First, they left the city into the

prole's territory and met casually in order to make a rebellion against the Party by having sex. Obviously, they were always careful and checked that nobody had seen them, neither leaving nor meeting, as that would be suspicious enough.

Eventually, they started to rent a room above a store and to have their encounters there, so that nobody could see them. As their romance was progressing, Winston hated the Party a little bit more every day. Furthermore, he was sure that they would be caught because he had thought of that since the day he had first written in his diary. Some time after those encounters, Winston received a message from O'Brien himself, stating that he wanted to meet him. Obviously, he got excited as he started to believe that what he had been thinking about O'Brien for a long time, was actually correct.

Therefore, Winston went with Julia to O'Brien's apartment, and they got to see how an Inner Party member lived, that is with all the luxury they could never enjoy. O'Brien said that he was a member of the Brotherhood (the name of Goldstein's rebellion movement) and that he hated the Party as much as they did. After that, he introduced Winston into the Brotherhood's ideas, and he gave him a book that Goldstein had written, the manifesto of the Brotherhood, as they called it.

They left with the book, and as it was not safe to keep the book just anywhere, they decided to take it to the room they had rented outside the city, where their encounters took place. Winston read the book to Julia every time they met. One day, after having their sex rebellion, Winston was reading to her and suddenly, the Thought Police got inside the room, and they were arrested. It seemed that the owner of the store was a member of the police the whole time.

When they were arrested, they were taken to the Ministry of Love, which according to Winston was the one that should really be feared. Later on, O'Brien went to see Winston, and he accepted that he was actually a member of the Party and that he was just trying to make him commit

an actual crime against the Party, so that he could be arrested. Moreover, O'Brien tortured and brainwashed Winston in order to make him an honorable member of the Party.

Months later, Winston was skinnier and less healthy than ever, and O'Brien decided that it was time to take him into Room 101 which was the final destination for all traitors. In this room, they had to face their worst fears, and Winston was actually having nightmares about rats. O'Brien took advantage of this and got Winston in a cage where only his head fits, and it has trapped to let rats enter the cage and eat his face. Obviously, he was extremely scared and in panic of the fact that the rats would be eating his face, so he begged O'Brien not to do it. He asked O'Brien to do it to Julia instead.

After his request of punishing Julia, O'Brien realized that he had accomplished his mission. Breaking Winston into giving up Julia proved that he no longer cared about her, and that the Party's ideas had returned to Winston's head. Eventually, he was released to the world again and continue with his life and the job he had had. Shortly after that, he ran into Julia, but he no longer felt anything towards her. He only thought about the Party, and he was no longer sure of what he really was. Although, he was sure that he was a new-found member of the Party's movement and that two plus two equals five.

Chapter III

Methodological Framework

The purpose of this chapter is to explain the methodology used in the investigation. It details the approaches, sources, instruments, and techniques used to collect the data and develop the research. Furthermore, all of the information will be implemented to give a more accurate and exact result to this paper and provide the reader with a deeper understanding of the book, and the problems stated in the objectives provided.

In other words, this section describes the research and how the investigator arrived at the conclusions that solved the problem statement. This means that the Methodological Framework is one of the most important parts of any research paper, as it explains how the author collected the data and analyzed it using a scientific method. In addition, this section allows the reader to evaluate the overall of the investigation and its reliability, in order to consider it as a meaningful contribution to the topic being discussed and a trustworthy literary analysis of the book.

3.1 Research Approach

A research can be defined as a careful study regarding a problem that will be investigated by scientific methods. Furthermore, a research is an inquiry used to explain and describe a phenomenon that is being observed. Additionally, it can be worked by different types of methods, such as quantitative, qualitative, and mixed.

In this paper, the researcher will use the qualitative method which will be further explained. Nevertheless, the remaining two will be mentioned in order to get a deeper understating of how the qualitative one is most accurate for the development of this investigation.

3.1.1 Qualitative Research

The qualitative method focuses on the way in which individuals perceive and behave in their environment. In other words, it tries to analyze and understand intangible evidence, such as emotions and motives that drive individuals to behave in a very specific manner; it also takes into consideration symbolism and its interpretation.

In addition, this method does not count with rigid procedures and rules as the quantitative one. Furthermore, it is very literature oriented. Therefore, it means that the investigator must conduct an extensive literature research on the topic in order to obtain key concepts, ideas, and collect data to better understand the results. Additionally, it gathers information through research methods such as focus groups, unstructured interviews, and participant observation.

The presented literary analysis will be supported by a qualitative research due to the nature of the investigation and how it is focused on the historical facts that influenced the author, and character's experiences throughout the novel. Also, it means to compare and analyze the similarities between those characters' insight/social status and the societies 'current position.

3.1.2 Quantitative Research

The quantitative method is a very structured way of gathering and analyzing data. The more data available, the more accurate the investigation will be. It uses research methods that generate quantitative data such as questionnaires/surveys, laboratory-based methods, structured observation, among others. In addition, this type of research provides its findings using statements, graphs, tables, and data that addresses each of the research questions or the hypothesis.

3.1.3 Mixed Research

This type of research combines both the qualitative and the quantitative methods. The mixed method is used when any investigation is better studied and understood by combining both methodologies rather than using only one. In addition, this research does not have an established set of rules or procedures to be developed but most of the times, it starts with the qualitative analysis in order to gather information and make easier the understanding of the topic.

Furthermore, since the qualitative and quantitative methods are so different from each other, it is recommended for the investigator to be careful and to define clear goals for the development of the research. The development of the investigation will depend on the way in which the mentioned methods have been used and applied during the analysis.

3.2 Research Design

The Research Design can be defined as the framework of techniques that will be used by the researcher in order to develop the investigation. Moreover, its function is to ensure that the data obtained enables the investigator to effectively address the objectives of the analysis as accurate as possible. For this reason, the researcher must have a very clear idea of the various types of research designs so that the selected one is correctly applied in the study. For instance, this literary analysis will use a descriptive research design that will be further explained.

3.2.1 Descriptive Design

The descriptive research design is a method that requires observing and describing a particular subject/topic without affecting it in any way. Besides, this methodology focuses on the “what” of the investigation rather than the “why” a certain situation occurs. Some particular characteristics of this research are:

- Uncontrolled variables: As this is mainly an observation method, none of the variables that would be observed can be manipulated or changed by the investigator.
- Comparison of characteristics: This type of research is useful in order to analyze and further explain a comparison between two different groups.
- Further investigation: More research on the topic can be done for verification or comparison of the information provided.

Furthermore, this type of analysis is considered as one of the best methods for collecting information because it describes characteristics and analyzes the world as it is, without making any type of correction or manipulation of the study. Additionally, there are three main types of descriptive methods: observational methods, case-study methods, and survey methods.

- Observational method: Observations allow the researchers to gather information about the topic without relying on previous studies, since they're taking the data directly from the subject.
- Case study method: A case study can be used to describe and provide specific characteristics of the subject. It focuses on the more detailed information rather than on general facts related to the topic.
- Survey Method: Surveys allows the researcher to gather large volumes of data to analyze during the investigation. In order for the information to be reliable, the questions must be very well constructed.

Due to the nature of the present investigation, the descriptive method is the most precise and the one that will allow the reader to get a deeper understating of the characteristics that the paper aims to analyze. As the research develops, it will be clear that the case study and the observations will be the key in order to identify and comprehend the topic that is being discussed.

3.3 Information Sources

In order to develop this investigation and make it reliable, several information sources must be used. Being able to look for information and use materials to back up an investigation is an important part of how accurate the paper will be. According to Anamika Varshney (2011) “It is a source of information for somebody, i.e. anything that might inform a person about something or provide knowledge to somebody.” The information that researchers collect might be available in different means, such as printed or online data on the topic. Consequently, there are different types of sources used in this research, and they fall into three different categories.

3.3.1 Primary Sources

They are the original materials used in the investigation and from where other researches might be based on. In addition, they are written in the time of the event or throughout a research period, and they contain first-hand information. Some primary sources can be books, diaries, autobiographies, theories, poems, letters, among others.

For this research, the main primary source is the book *1984* published by George Orwell in 1949. Among other primary sources, there are statements provided by the author in the time in which the book was released.

3.3.2 Secondary Sources

The secondary sources are written after the events. Therefore, these sources are created based on the primary information about the topic, so they are not evident, but they are rather research and subjective comments on the matter being studied. Some examples of secondary documents are journal articles, scholar papers, magazines, bibliographies, and so forth.

Additionally, several scholar papers and magazine/journal articles have been taken into account when writing the present investigation.

3.3.3 Tertiary Sources

Tertiary sources are usually information that will lead the reader to primary and secondary sources. Furthermore, documents that will provide a guidance into more potentially relevant data. Some examples of tertiary sources are dictionaries, encyclopedias, directories, among others. For this particular investigation, the more relevant tertiary sources are the dictionaries and abstracts.

3.4 Analysis Categories

The aim of this research is a literary criticism of the book *1984* by George Orwell based on a historical approach. For this reason, it is better to start by fully understanding what literary criticism entails.

3.4.1 Literary Criticism

Literary criticism is the evaluation, analysis, and interpretation of literature in order to increase the reader's understanding of the book or the topic being discussed. Elisabetta LeJeune stated "A critical analysis is subjective writing because it expresses the writer's opinion or evaluation of a text. Analysis means to break down and study the parts." (1997) There are different types of approaches that can be used to analyze literature. Some of them are:

- Formalistic approach
- Humanist/Ethical approach
- Historical approach
- Psychological approach

- Feminist approach
- Linguistic approach

Furthermore, in this particular research, the historical approach will be used and further explained.

3.4.2 Historical Approach

This is one of the most important approaches when analyzing literature. The Encyclopedia Britannica defines the historical approach as:

Literary criticism in the light of historical evidence or based on the context in which a work was written, including facts about the author's life and the historical and social circumstances of the time. This is in contrast to other types of criticism, such as textual and formal, in which emphasis is placed on examining the text itself while outside influences on the text are disregarded.
(n.d.)

To analyze the book, the historical approach as well as a set of instruments that will provide deeper understating to the reader will be used.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

Data collection is defined as the process in which information is evaluated, analyzed, and used as the means to evaluate a hypothesis. The most critical aspect of data collection is making sure that what is gathered is reliable information that will work depending on the field of the study. Nevertheless, as the instruments may vary depending on the research, the main goal of data collection remains the same. Its objective is to gather quality evidence that will be translated into

data analysis, in order to provide a convincing and accurate answer to the investigation. For this analysis, three main data collection instruments will be used and further explained below.

3.5.1 Text Analysis

Document analysis is a form of qualitative research in which the texts are interpreted by the investigator in order to understand the language, symbols, and ideas in the text. The objective is to provide a deeper comprehension of the text that is being analyzed and provide the reader details that may have been misunderstood or overlooked while reading the novel. Therefore, due to the nature of the book *1984*, text analysis is one of the most important instruments that can be used in this research. Orwell managed to create a dystopia full of symbols with a much deeper meaning than what they seemed and even a different language only used within the novel's world. Although, as the research is developed, it will be noticeable how that type of language is not limited to fiction.

3.5.2 Quotation

Quotes are very useful instruments when developing a research. Previous investigations and authors provide valid insights and different points of view in useful topics when creating a research paper. Also, quotes taken directly from the novel being analyzed can supply the reader with a more detailed explanation of the writer's intend.

Additionally, as was previously stated in this document, *1984* caused an impact that remains even today (70 years after its publication) and several known authors have provided opinions and even based part of their work in this book over the years. Due to the influence of the

book and the available information on the topic, quotation has been one of the most useful instruments throughout the development of this research.

3.6 Collection Data Process and Data Analysis

The collection of data to undergo this analysis will be gathered by doing different investigations on the topic.

First, the book that is being analyzed will be read in order to provide, not only a personal insight of the work, but also a full knowledge of how the writer has developed his ideas, the way in which society functions, and how the characters act/think when living under that type government and its rules.

Second, different scholar papers will be used in order to obtain more information and previous points of view of the topic that is being analyzed. Also, articles from newspapers and magazines have been part of the investigation on the subject as the book 1984 had an important impact in the literary field since its publication.

Lastly, the data analysis will be carried out by tables of content, examination, and interpretation of the information found about the topic as well as quotes found in the book. In addition, some of the collected data will be compared to one another in order to develop a relation between fiction and reality in the book that may have taken place in different countries in the world. The following table will be used in the next chapter in order to provide a deeper understanding on the book analysis.

Fragment	Theory	Researcher's Opinion

Chapter IV

Data Analysis

The purpose of this chapter is to examine the data collected throughout the research, along with the theories that were explained in Chapter II of this investigation. Also, a historical approach was used in order to provide more details and validation to the gathered data. Moreover, the chapter contains fragments of the literary work along with experts' views on the topic, and the researcher's opinion in order to fulfil the analysis of the objectives. First, the approach selected for the analysis will be further detailed.

4.1 Approaches to the Investigation

Literary approaches are used to analyze literary works in order to understand the background of the story, what influences the author, and the different perspectives that can come to life when the analysis is made. For instance, the Cambridge Dictionary defines Literary Criticism as “the formal study and discussion of works of literature, for example by judging and explaining their importance and meaning” (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.) Furthermore, literary approaches take into consideration the cultural, political, and social aspects in the books as well as the author's situation when the piece is written. For this particular analysis, the Historical Approach has been selected due to the themes and background of the book.

4.1.1 Historical Approach to 1984

First, the definition of historical approach must be clear in order to understand the reason of the investigator for selecting it for this analysis. Moreover, Britannica defines it as “Historical

criticism, literary criticism in the light of historical evidence or based on the context in which a work was written, including facts about the author's life and the historical and social circumstances of the time." Furthermore, *1984* brought to life a literary piece that has survived decades thanks to its similarities to historical events, and the possibility of a non-so distant reality.

During his lifetime, George Orwell was against the differences between social classes, as it was something he was familiar with from an early age. Later, he took part in the Spanish War, and the experience made him realized that movements, such as the Russian Revolution he supported, were just about replacing a communist government with a Fascist Party that created an even more pronounced gap between the higher and the lowest classes in any society.

Additionally, that political party tried to cover up its reality with a mask of social equality when it had forced labor, political repression, and lack of freedom of speech. Furthermore, the author successfully includes in the novel characteristics that were part of the reality of his time. For instance, Joseph Stalin was famous because of the propaganda and the media control during his ruling in the Soviet Union.

Moreover, the characteristics and the portraying of Emmanuel Goldstein's character in *1984*, resembles the story of Leon Trotsky during Stalin's government. Trotsky was a communist politician who had a power struggle against Stalin. Finally, Stalin succeeded thanks to his influences and the expelled of Leon Trotsky from the Communist Party. Shortly after, he banished Leon Trotsky from the country as well. Similarly, as Goldstein in *1984*, Leon Trotsky had a manifesto of his own that was called "The Revolution Betrayed".

Also, the Soviet Union was famous due to its ability of making people who were against the government's ideals disappeared. Stalin had no problem fixing history, and made many people helped him to change it to make his government look better. Also, he paid experts to remove people

and added details to photographs as he pleased. Also in *1984*, there was a specific department that handled all the modifications that had to be done for Big Brother's benefit.

In the same way, George Orwell noticed some of the most important characteristics in the Nazi Germany and added them as part of his dystopia of the future. For example, the relevance of language is highlighted throughout the novel in the same way Adolf Hitler did it during his ruling. Further, George Orwell knew that words and language were important tools Hitler used in order to gain power. Besides his ability of speech, Hitler created a Nazi Language full of euphemism and words that were familiar only to the members of his party. Just like Big Brother, he wished to narrow people's thoughts and limit them to the ideals he provided.

As well as with language, the author was aware of the amount of vigilance communists' parties used in order to remain in power and prevent insubordination. Further, both Hitler and Stalin counted with cameras, microphones, and undercover agents in order to have a total control of what happened in their territories. Therefore, the author was aware that if vigilance was an important part of the communist governments at the time, it could only increase to a level in which human rights would be totally disrespected in a near future.

Undoubtedly, historical events were an important influence in George Orwell's written work. He was able to create a story that sounded far from reality, but it was totally attainable which caused in the world a clear state of awareness in the events to come. Although, the author's own experience in the matter provided a much deeper look and understating to the real circumstances and consequences that totalitarianism could have in the society. Furthermore, the author not only considered the country's imminent destruction, but also the impact in the people and the self.

Therefore, George Orwell knew that totalitarianism would bring the individual thinking to a point in which all human characteristics such as thoughts, hopes, and dreams will cease to exist

in order to maintain an extreme obedience and loyalty. George Orwell's last contribution to literature was a clear warning to keep humans with their most precious assets that is, individual thinking and freedom of choice.

For the reasons previously mentioned, a historical approach of *1984* is extremely important in order to understand how such a dystopia is totally possible, but also how to prevent it from being a reality. Moreover, acknowledging that certain aspects of the novel were based in historical facts, the reader could gain a deeper understating of the author's point of view and find a meaningful insight to the current situation of the world.

4.2 Theories vs Literary Work

In order to obtain a more meaningful analysis of the book along with supporting data, the literary work will be further examined using the selected theories for this research. First, the Marxist theory analyzes the social, political, and economic aspects of a society. Further, it analyzes how those factors affect the mind and daily life of its members. Additionally, it focuses in the social classes and their differences.

In the same place, the theory of Deconstructionism emphasizes the role of language, the literal and figurative meanings, as well as the idea of two opposites use together in order to understand a concept. Therefore, creating confusing ideas that seem as there is no absolute truth about anything. Lastly, the Psychoanalytic theory refers to the psychological conflicts, the dynamics of personality, and the projection of the author's psyche. The following table will analyze fragments of the novel using the theories along with the researcher's opinions.

Table 1. Fragments of the novel 1984 analyzed with the theories previously mentioned and the researcher's opinion.

Fragment	Theory	Researcher's Opinion
<p>“Winston, however, in rewriting the forecast, marked the figure down to fifty-seven million, so as to allow for the usual claim that the quota had been overfulfilled. In any case, sixty-two million was no nearer the truth than fifty-seven million, or than 145 million. Very likely no boots had been produced at all. Likelier still, nobody knew how many had been produced, much less cared. All one knew was that every quarter astronomical numbers of boots were produced on paper, while perhaps half the population of Oceania went barefoot.</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 53).</p>	<p>Marxism</p>	<p>The passage emphasizes as Marxism does, how populations are controlled, and how the Party administrates the holdings of the people as it wishes. Nowadays, communists, such as the ones in Cuba and Venezuela, control all the available resources in order to maintain citizens under their regimen. Besides, common people believe what the government tells them and accept what the government gives them as well. Therefore, with these types of political parties the government attempts to manipulate the</p>

		<p>masses by handling available assets and their distribution. In this way, the population will never attempt to overcome its power as they are given the illusion of caring for them.</p>
<p>“His mind slid away into the labyrinthine world of doublethink. To know and not to know, to be conscious of complete truthfulness while telling carefully constructed lies, to hold simultaneously two opinions which cancelled out, knowing them to be contradictory and believing in both of them, to use logic against logic, to repudiate morality while laying claim to it”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 44).</p>	<p>Deconstructionism</p>	<p>One of the most important ways of manipulating the masses is through language. As the fragment shows, the words are given to them in what seems to be a clear message, but they confuse people and make them believe that nice words are linked to poor actions. Thus, creating the illusion of accomplishing or providing security can get leaders to achieve ideals that might be the opposite to what their utterances implied. For example, a sentence such as</p>

	Deconstructionism	<p>“Let’s make America great again” can make people believe that certain political forces are trying to improve the current status of the country. Although, this message promoted racism, misogyny, xenophobia, and prejudice which their followers believe are part of making the country a better place. Furthermore, language manipulations give the idea that certain actions are correct and give social groups more power and the certainty that this power will never come to an end.</p>
<p>“It was only on very rare occasions that one saw inside the dwelling-places of the Inner Party, or even penetrated into the</p>	Marxism	<p>The fragment emphasizes a clear difference between the social classes in the book. As stated, Winston, not only lived</p>

<p>quarter of the town where they lived. The whole atmosphere of the huge block of flats, the richness and spaciousness of everything, the unfamiliar smells of good food and good tobacco...”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 212).</p>	<p>Marxism</p>	<p>in a building in which the conditions were not fine, but also the food that was provided to the Inner Party members had a better quality than the one provided to the rest. Similarly, these divisions are part of the world we live in. For instance, in Costa Rica by 2018, 21,1% families lived under poor conditions, and it mostly incremented due to corruption. Moreover, resources that are supposed to be handled to assist these types of families are used to benefit only a few, and to pay millions a year in luxury retirements. Such conditions will continue to exist as long as the power resides in only one of the social groups.</p>
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<p>“It’s a beautiful thing, the destruction of words. Of course, the great wastage is in the verbs and adjectives, but there are hundreds of nouns that can be got rid of as well. It isn’t only the synonyms; there are also the antonyms. After all, what justification is there for a word which is simply the opposite of some other word? A word contains its opposite in itself. Take ‘good’, for instance. If you have a word like ‘good’, what need is there for a word like ‘bad’? ‘Ungood’ will do just as well better, because it’s an exact opposite, which the other is not.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 66).</p>	<p>Deconstructionism</p>	<p>George Orwell believed that language was one of the most important tools governments had. Further, he based his ideas in the experience he had in politics, and the effects that language could cause on whole populations under a dictatorship. During his ruling, Adolf Hitler (1933-1945) managed to create some sort of Nazi language that allowed him to make their actions easier to bear. Furthermore, euphemisms were an important part, not only of his speeches, but also in the way he gave orders. The amount of lies added to the changes of certain terminologies, made people easier to persuade, as well as harder for them to question the</p>
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		<p>Nazi authority. Similarly, in <i>1984</i> the goal of the implementation of the new language was to narrow the population's thoughts and to control its actions.</p>
<p>“Don't you see that the whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought? In the end we shall make thoughtcrime literally impossible, because there will be no words in which to express it. Every concept that can ever be needed, will be expressed by exactly one word, with its meaning rigidly defined and all its subsidiary meanings rubbed out and forgotten.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 67).</p>	<p>Psychoanalytic</p>	<p>The author focused, not only in the importance of language and its effects but acknowledged that its goal was not only to control the populations. Furthermore, Newspeak's objective was to alter and manage the people's thoughts and experiences. It was not enough for them to act under Big Brother or Hitler's rules, for example, but they had to truly believe what they were being imposed. Moreover, the psychological experience of the individual</p>

		<p>was to be created, constructed and handled by themselves thanks to the influences and successful manipulations of the Party.</p>
<p>“All history was a palimpsest, scraped clean and reinscribed exactly as often as was necessary. In no case would it have been possible, once the deed was done, to prove that any falsification had taken place.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 51).</p>	<p>Marxism</p>	<p>As a ruler that has total control, Big Brother was able to erase all trace of news, documentation, and even people who were not aligned with his ideology or that made a poor choice along the way. George Orwell was not a stranger to this in real life. During Joseph Stalin’s ruling (1922-1953), it was known that he altered, not only the facts, but also eliminated members of his Party. Furthermore, Stalin knew the value that documentation, including photographs, had in</p>

	Marxism	<p>history, so he had a group of experts that removed unwanted people from the images. Additionally, he put himself in events and places he had never been in. Clearly, it is an important part of these governments to totally control what could be used against them.</p>
<p>“There was of course no way of knowing whether you were being watched at any given moment. How often, or on what system, the Thought Police plugged in on any individual wire was guesswork. It was even conceivable that they watched everybody all the time. But at any rate they could plug in your wire whenever they wanted to. You had to live—did live, from habit</p>	Marxism	<p>Another important side of the control the government has from a Marxist point of view, is a constant monitoring of the people’s lives and actions. Currently, such as in <i>1984</i>, surveillance cameras are part of the citizens’ daily life. For example, in China, which is the country that has more cameras in the world, there’s one for every five individuals.</p>

<p>that became instinct—in the assumption that every sound you made was overheard, and, except in darkness, every movement scrutinized.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 5).</p>	<p>Marxism</p>	<p>Also, the United Kingdom, which follows China as the second country, was facing criticism from the European Court of Human Rights due to their surveillance practices and invasion to privacy. In addition to the government intrusion, social media offers another opportunity for the individual’s privacy to be affected. Nevertheless, social media is created by each person to willingly publish his/her own life. Although, it is important to highlight that every publication ever created can be used by anyone with access to it, so they are able to control and manipulate the data as they wish.</p>
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<p>“Nearly all children nowadays were horrible. What was worst of all was that by means of such organizations as the Spies they were systematically turned into ungovernable little savages, and yet this produced in them no tendency whatsoever to rebel against the discipline of the Party. On the contrary, they adored the Party and everything connected with it.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 31).</p>	<p>Psychoanalytic</p>	<p>The fragment shows how the Party had such an incredible way of influencing the people that even children grew up following a certain path. Similarly, in the current societies, children grow up following examples of what is expected from them. In a conscious and unconscious way, children and young people are told how they should look like, how they should talk, and the mold they are supposed to fit in. Besides, when they fail to fit in such requirements, they get mistreated and rejected by others. Therefore, current societies are successfully manipulating and creating characteristics in the people.</p>
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<p>“It appeared that there had even been demonstrations to thank Big Brother for raising the chocolate ration to twenty grammes a week. And only yesterday, he reflected, it had been announced that the ration was to be REDUCED to twenty grammes a week.”</p> <p>(Orwell, 1949, p. 75).</p>	<p>Marxism</p>	<p>Controlling the news on a daily basis has existed for decades and is still done nowadays. Jim Morrison said, “Whoever controls the media, controls the mind.” Currently, governments keep the reality away from the population to avoid disturbance. For example, real numbers of victims from a certain disease are not actually published. Additionally, is it known that the United States has departments such as the Area 51, that keep all the information that cannot be shared with the citizens, not only to avoid conflict, but also to manipulate the truth as they wish. Thus, the world in which the populations are kept away from important information</p>
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		already exists and probably, it has existed since the beginning of the society itself.
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4.3 Themes, Motifs, and Symbols

In addition to the theories that have been previously explained, it is important to further describe characteristics of the novel that will assist the reader throughout the analysis. Themes, symbols, and motifs provide the reader a deeper meaning on the story and its events.

The theme of a story is the main idea or, as was stated in the second chapter, the message that the author wants to convey. The following table will analyze fragments found in *1984* which are related to the main themes in the novel, that is; power, language, technology, and propaganda.

Table 2. Themes found in the novel 1984 with the respective explanation.

Theme	Explanation
Power	Throughout the beginning of the book, <i>1984</i> provides a clear idea of a society in which the class differences are very pronounced, and the control one has over the other very notorious. As Winston entered his apartment, he was not able to turn off the telescreen's volume what makes the reader realize how he cannot do or

Power

listen to what he pleases. Additionally, the telescreen provided the government the power to see and hear what people were doing the entire time. Also, as they had total control over it, the government could contact the characters at any given time, for example, when Winston was called out for not doing his exercises correctly. As Marxism entails, the ruling class will decide and control the proletariat's moves and ways of living. Therefore, they might be able to avoid and be prepared for any attempt of the individuals gaining ownership of their lives. Additionally, the Party not only owns its present, but also has control over its entire existence. As the Party slogan highlights "Who controls the past, controls the future: who controls the present controls the past." Thus, the government erases any trace of the society's real past, and the self in any person, such as Winston who does not remember the last time the country had been different, nor the last time he had seen his mother. Marxism highlights the dangers of the power in the

Power	<p>government as George Orwell the dangers of the power in a totalitarian state. The author himself fought against totalitarian governments and recognized its ability to dominate the body and the mind of the masses. Just as Marxism, <i>1984</i> stresses how the only possibility to overcome totalitarianism is by a rebellion. Although, the main character fails to overcome Big Brother, his entire journey shows the power of the mind and of the one that controls it.</p>
Language	<p>George Orwell was fully aware of the power totalitarian states had, and he highlighted how one of its most important tools was language. In the book, the author emphasized how language was key in order to gain power and to keep the individuals under control. Furthermore, as it was mentioned, Deconstructionism focuses on how through words there cannot be an absolute truth within an idea and how the opposites used together can make the world more complex and difficult</p>

Language	<p>to understand, for example, phrases such as “War is Peace” mentioned in the book. Also, in the book, populations got manipulated with a language that did not allow them to develop their own thoughts. As Syme, Winston’s coworker points out “Every year fewer and fewer words, and the range of consciousness always a little smaller.” Moreover, the author wanted to provide his input and some awareness of the power that lays in language. Such as in the Nazi Germany, Stalin’s ruling, and Big Brother’s totalitarian state, the words and euphemisms used by each leader gave them more authority, followers, and validations to their ideals. Therefore, Orwell successfully displayed how language could give more power to a ruler.</p>
Technology and Propaganda	<p>Throughout the whole book, the use of technology predominates, and it is of high importance in order to accomplish the Party’s goals. As it was previously discussed, the government in 1984 watched over the party</p>

Technology and Propaganda	<p>members throughout a telescreen and hidden cameras all over their territory, thus, surveillance is another important tool in order to keep control. Nevertheless, the Party also applied technology to their torture devices and working instruments. Also, the high-quality telescreens that exist all over the country allow the Party to provide constant propaganda and hate messages to the population 24/7. From a psychoanalytic point of view, propaganda influences individuals in a conscious and unconscious way causing behaviors, thoughts, and ideas that may seem to be from their own. In a way, George Orwell was aware that the speed in which technology improved and how it was being used back in 1949, would give governments total access to the individuals privacy, and the opportunity to shape their minds as they wished, something that current societies are no stranger to.</p>
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Second, the symbols of the story can be objects, sounds, or words that have a much deeper meaning than their literal ones. Sometimes the symbols are easy to identify during the reading,

although, some cannot be perceived by the reader. In this research, the symbols of Big Brother, the coral paperweight, and the concept of $2+2=5$ will be further explored.

Table 3. Symbols found in the novel 1984 with the respective explanation.

Symbol	Explanation
Big Brother	Big Brother is the face of the Party, and the ruler to the entire country. Additionally, the Party portrays him like the savior of the people, but the reality is that he symbolizes all that is wrong in the society. For instance, the phrase “BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU” provides the clear message that they are being constantly monitored by the government. The author created a symbol that was both good and bad at the same time. For some people, Big Brother was the saviour that the Party claimed, but also the characters were conscious of the dangers of being seen by Big Brother. Ironically, he was given a name that could imply some sort of protection and sympathy to the people, but it was a reminder of how they were going to be dominated throughout their

	entire lives.
The coral paperweight	<p>Winston found the paperweight in the store where he later went with Julia. At first glance, he was caught by the beauty of the object and by how ancient it looked. Moreover, what appealed to him the most about the paperweight was that it was old, it came from a different time. Further, one in which beauty was not frowned upon, and they had the liberty to possess such things. Later, Winston starts thinking that the paperweight was a world in which he and Julia could not be separated by Big Brother, nor by the Thought Police. Furthermore, it represented the room where they rebelled against the Party, and the coral was supposed to represent them and the love they had shared in that place. Later, when they are caught by the Thought Police and the paperweight is broken it symbolizes their real situation and how the private world they had shared in the room was broken as well. Also, Winston notices how small the coral really is,</p>

	<p>once it is out of the glass. Similarly, they realized how small they were against the power of the Party.</p>
<p>2+2=5</p>	<p>The math problem symbolizes the control that the Party has over the thoughts of the individuals and their perception of reality. Even though, a lot of aspects made clear the Party's power, Winston thought that being able to correctly respond to the addition gave power to the people. He said "Freedom is the freedom to say that two plus two make four. If that is granted, all else follows." This statement implies that if the math was correct, Winston was still in control of his inner self. Later, when Winston was captured and then tortured, O'Brien showed him four fingers and asked Winston if he could see five, to which Winston replied affirmatively. In that moment, O'Brien started realizing that they had gained almost total control over him. When Winston was free and went back to his duties, the addition continued to have a lot of importance for him,</p>

	<p>the only difference was that now he answered that two plus two equaled five. Therefore, the result symbolizes that Winston no longer controls his thoughts, and the reality as he did before.</p>
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Lastly, the motifs of the story will be presented. The motifs are ideas, words, sounds, and objects that symbolize a deeper meaning in the story and reinforce the book's themes. It can be confused with a symbol, although the motifs are recurrent throughout the whole novel. The motifs to analyze are the telescreens, doublethink, and the two minutes hate.

Table 4. Motifs found in the novel 1984 with the respective explanation.

Motif	Explanation
<p>Telescreens</p>	<p>The telescreens show and prove the incredible power the Party has over the country. This piece of technology keeps the reader, as well as the characters, in a constant reminder of the lack of privacy, and the vigilance of the government. Furthermore, the telescreens can also be hidden, so they can keep an eye on the people while they are unaware, for instance, the picture in the secret room where Winston</p>

Telescreens	<p>and Julia meet. Additionally, these telescreens provide a clear idea of the differences that social classes have in the book. Moreover, when Winston is in O'Brien's house, he realizes that the Inner Party members have the ability to turn off their telescreens, although, those members have only a short amount of time to keep their telescreens off. Once again, this highlights the power of the government because no matter the rank of the person he/she still has to be watched by Big Brother.</p>
Doublethink	<p>Doublethink is the ability to have two contradictory ideas in the mind and still be able to believe it is true. Language is an important tool throughout the whole book in order to maintain the Party's psychological manipulation of the people. Furthermore, doublethink kept the community confused and in full acceptance of the Party's decisions and ideas. For instance, slogans such as "FREEDOM IS SLAVERY" maintained the idea that even though, the people worked as</p>

<p>Doublethink</p>	<p>slaves, that kept them free because the country was in a constant state of battle, and they were working in order to win. Additionally, the Ministries' names were contradictory to their reality. For example, the Ministry of Plenty, which was in charge of the amount of food and clothes for the people, kept the citizens with plenty of nothing, as there were always lacking food and clothes. Furthermore, doublethink, and language itself, were important sides of the Party's dominance in Oceania.</p>
<p>Two Minutes Hate</p>	<p>An important aspect for the Party's interest was to keep the people thinking what they were told to think. Furthermore, propaganda and the constant reminders of the Party's ideals were able to increase control over the people's thoughts. For instance, the Two Minutes Hate gave them the opportunity to recall the enemies of the state, and all that they had done wrong against society. At the same time, the Party was able to keep the hatred alive in every individual by inviting them to insult and express violent</p>

Two Minutes Hate

thoughts towards the enemies. Additionally, this activity gave populations the opportunity to lose control of themselves for two minutes and even though the Party censored all pleasurable activities, it was allowed as it was of its own interest to keep the people looking forward to it. The Two Minutes Hate was a daily activity that reinforced the power of the Party throughout the book.

Chapter V

Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Purpose of the Conclusion

In this chapter, the conclusions gathered by the researcher will be presented in order to provide the reader with the final thoughts of the investigation. In addition, the data of how the objectives have been accomplished, as well as recommendations for further analysis in the topic or studies related are given. Furthermore, the purpose of this chapter is to offer the reader a deeper understanding of how the research has been conducted, and its most valuable recommendations.

5.2 Conclusions

5.2.1 To compare the characteristics of the totalitarian state presented in the book and the modern governments nowadays.

The first objective was reached through the analysis of fragments found in the book that contain clear details and characteristics of a totalitarian state. Furthermore, the quotes were analyzed using a historical approach, as well as the Marxist and Deconstructionism theory, in order to successfully compare those characteristics to current governments.

Throughout the analysis, the researcher was able to point out aspects of present governments that maintain similar types of rules in their own territories. Moreover, countries such as Cuba, have been under rulers that manage the amount of supplies that are provided to the people as the frequency in which they are supplied. Even though it seems as a fair treatment, high

members of the political group maintain a better lifestyle than most of the population increasing the gap within social classes.

In addition, as it has been shown when explaining deconstructionism, political parties have been able to gain power promoting ideals that could be seen as positive, but that may actually increase negative behaviors within the society. Further, the researcher was able to notice patterns in the political campaign made by the current president of the United States, for instance, how he managed to give the voting population speeches in which the improvement of the society was the main topic but promoted actions and situations that harmed citizens within his own country still exist.

Moreover, sales of George Orwell's last literary work increased in and outside the United States after President Trump had won the elections. Therefore, people including individuals outside the United States, were able to notice a resemblance of *1984*'s within the candidate's campaign. Besides, actions and believes of the people that support him have caused the country many things except making it great again.

Furthermore, throughout the Marxist theory many governments seem to have similarities with the totalitarian state presented in the book. Even though most of the countries vote in order to select their own leader, some of them win thanks to illegal assistance, and others are actually selected by the people. In any case, most territories have a clear division within social classes that affect the population's daily lives, a personal development, and a psychological growth.

To conclude, the similarities found after the research might not reflect all of the characteristics George Orwell gave the government in his book. Although, it is important to acknowledge what could be improve in order to avoid states in which citizens and the country's benefits are not a priority. Also, it must be highlighted that throughout history all governments

have depended on the people to maintain their power, so just as Winston said, “If there is hope, it lies in the proles.” (Orwell, 1949, p. 89.)

5.2.2 To identify the events that influenced George Orwell in the late 40s when writing the book 1984.

The second objective was achieved through the analysis of the author’s life, and the situation of the world when the book was written. As it was previously stated, the historical approach was extremely important in order to provide the reader with a proper analysis of the book, as the author was incredibly active in most of the political events of the time.

Moreover, George Orwell’s views about social divisions began at an early age since he received different treatments due to his lack of fortune. Although, the author’s beliefs were neither envy nor the desire for other’s favors, he expressed his rejection towards those advantages as he thought that all the people were equal independently of their social situation.

Additionally, he participated in political movements that wanted to achieve the same goal of social equality. Later, he would experience poor living conditions that only intensified his desires and helped him write some of his first literary works. Since the beginning, the author’s personal experiences shaped him and made clear the path he wanted to follow, not only in his personal life, but also as a writer.

Furthermore, being a writer helped Orwell to acknowledge the incredible power words have when it comes to driving forces and shaping minds. Therefore, the author was able to notice Hitler’s power of speech, as well as his intentions of managing the language in order to benefit his political pretensions. Thus, he gave Newspeak and Doublethink an important role in *1984*.

Undoubtedly, the success of certain leaders at the time, gave George Orwell further worries about the way in which the world and its rulers were heading at, as well as a warning about the dangers of a totalitarian state. The author of this book granted language a relevant position, so that world could recognize how sometimes weapons were not the only or the greatest danger a society could face.

In conclusion, the author was indeed influenced by social, political, and personal events that led him to create the most relevant literary work in his career back in 1949. Along with the book that continues to be present 70 years later, George Orwell created a legacy and a path for future writers, who like him, wanted to convey a message in order to improve humanity, as well as the election of the leaders to come.

5.2.3 To analyze the aspects found in 1984' society and the current situation of the world.

The third objective was accomplished through fragments of the book that were examined and compared to current societies. In addition, they were analyzed through the Marxist and psychological theories in order to find a resemblance to the events and customs found in 1984' society.

Currently, a government's vigilant eyes are more present than in the past. As George Orwell stated in his novel, surveillance found a greater role over the years in order to maintain social interactions within the correct boundaries and provide greater security to the citizens, although that vigilance could be getting out of control. Moreover, the number of cameras grows every day and people are starting to think they are being watched even in their own houses.

Further, there is the belief that you can be heard through cellphones and even watched through the camera of a laptop. Therefore, just as Winston could not be sure if he was being watched at a certain moment, the same feeling is present in current populations, and; therefore, they prefer to cover the front camera of their laptops in order to avoid unwanted surveillance. Similarly, even soccer games are being taped as the convenience of the video has come handy in almost every aspect. Also, there are times in which the government's cameras are not even needed since people carry their phones everywhere. Thus, they taped situations and afterwards, they uploaded them to social media for millions to see them.

In any case, individual thinking is more important nowadays than it had many years ago. Further, different groups of people gather together in order to fight for rights and acknowledgement from the rest of society. In *1984*, such things could not be even thought of because they were already consider as crimes. Therefore, the fight towards equality is present today, and it is being slowly accomplished by some social groups.

However, class' difference continues to be as marked as it has been before. Currently, social classes have a notorious gap in which the highest group are granted advantages over the rest, for instance some of them are access to better jobs, education, and health services. George Orwell experienced such differences, and it was one of the reasons that initiated him as a writer and made him part of the army.

In conclusion, there are a few similarities between George Orwell's dystopian society and some societies nowadays. The author's intention was not to predict the future, but to provide people with a written warning of how far the world could go if some leaders and their ideals remained in power. As the search for *1984* grew after the current president of the Unites States

was elected, it must be highlighted that its message is still a relevant allusion when society comes to difficult times.

5.3 Restatement of the Research Question

In this investigation, the research question was provided from the start in order to guide the reader into what the literary analysis is about. Further, we will focus on What is the literary criticism of the book *1984* by George Orwell to contrast and compare society aspects displayed by the author and the present time according to the historical context?

Based on the investigation and all the information previously provided, current societies are neither in the exact political nor social situation displayed in the book *1984*. Anyway, the researcher was able to point out aspects that resemble some of the book's characteristics, such as social divisions, language manipulation, and government surveillance.

Furthermore, the research allows the reader to recognize the historical facts that influenced the author, as well as George Orwell's personal experiences with totalitarian governments and social inequality. Also, the investigation granted the opportunity to highlight the importance of the human mind and the freedom of thought; which were some of the most relevant messages George Orwell wanted to convey throughout his literary work.

Moreover, the research question should remain the same as the objectives of the investigation were to identify characteristics as well as to contrast and compare, the social situation of the book with current societies. Additionally, throughout a historical approach, the facts and events acknowledged by the author were decisive for him to write such a dystopia. Therefore, the answer to question has been successfully achieved throughout the research.

5.4 Recommendations

Once the research has been concluded, recommendations are provided to assist future researchers if similar topics are being investigated. Furthermore, the research will supply them with additional tools in order to achieve better results or improve the ones already presented in this investigation. Since this research is for literary analysis, the recommendations will be directed to similar researches.

First, in order to provide readers with the best possible perspective, the researcher must be highly familiarized with the literary work selected. Therefore, prior reading before selecting can help the researcher not only to know the book but to make sure that that he/she is interested not only in the topic but in the story itself. When the literature has been chosen, it's also of great importance to read the book more than once. Further, it is useful for the investigator to notice details or fragments that can be of assistance in the research.

Second, it is important to investigate the author's life. Moreover, knowing the life and the events that influenced the author can help the researcher to get a better understanding of how the literary work came to life. Additionally, it must be highlighted the relevance of the author's past when it comes to the approaches chosen for the investigation. As well as for the selected theories, the author's background could play an important role.

Third, it is of great significance to carry out an organized investigation as well as a strict schedule to work. Consequently, the researcher will be able to focus in the analysis without interruptions and provide results in a timely manner. Additionally, as investigations are time consuming, the researcher must organize his/her time as good as possible.

Finally, the researcher recommends selecting a literary work that is not as known as others might be, but that contains a message that may help individuals and society improve. Moreover,

learning about authors whose works are remarkable, but not very well known may help the reader to appreciate a greater side of literature he/she is not familiarized with.

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Tribunal Examinador

Esta Tesina fue aprobada por el Tribunal Examinador de las Carreras de Inglés de la Universidad Internacional de las Américas, como requisito para optar por el grado de Bachiller en Inglés.

Lic. Rigoberto Gutiérrez

Tutor(a)

Lic. Lawrence Vega

Lector/Lectora

Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora

Director de las Carreras de Inglés

San José, Abril 2020

Señores
Universidad Internacional de las Américas

Estimados señores:

El suscrito Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora, Director de las Carreras de Inglés, hace constar que ha revisado la Tesina del estudiante, María Fernanda Rivera Umaña, portador(a) de la cédula de identidad no. 114360830, que ha titulado: *Literary Criticism of the Book 1984 by George Orwell Using a Historical Approach to Contrast and Compare Society Aspects Displayed by the Author in the 50's and the Present Time.*

La mencionada Tesina, responde a los requisitos exigidos en la Guía que nuestra carrera tiene para estos casos. Por tanto, se autoriza al autor para que lo presente ante el tribunal examinador nombrado para esta ocasión.

Atentamente,

Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés

San José, Abril 2020

Licenciado
Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés
Universidad Internacional de las Américas

Estimado señor:

La estudiante María Fernanda Rivera Umaña, portador (a) de la cédula de identidad no. 114360830, ha presentado para su lectura y corrección de estilo la tesina denominada *Literary Criticism of the Book 1984 by George Orwell Using a Historical Approach to Contrast and Compare Society Aspects Displayed by the Author in the 50's and the Present Time*. He revisado y corregido la coherencia de los objetivos con el marco teórico, instrumentos y resultados, la calidad del trabajo y la relevancia del trabajo. Por lo tanto, hago constar que este se encuentra listo para ser presentado a la Universidad como trabajo de graduación.

Atentamente,

.....
Lic. Lawrence Vega
Lector (a) de Tesis

San José, Abril 2020

Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés
Universidad Internacional de las Américas

Estimado señor:

La estudiante María Fernanda Rivera Umaña, portador (a) de la cédula de identidad no. 114360830, ha presentado para la respectiva revisión la tesina denominada *Literary Criticism of the Book 1984 by George Orwell Using a Historical Approach to Contrast and Compare Society Aspects Displayed by the Author in the 50's and the Present Time*. Por lo tanto, se hace constar que el documento fue revisado en lo relativo a la estructura gramatical, ortografía, puntuación, cohesión y terminología. Asimismo, se comprobó que las correcciones sugeridas se incorporaran al documento. Por ende, una vez incorporadas las recomendaciones efectuadas en el documento, el mismo se considera listo para su presentación la Universidad como trabajo de graduación.

Atentamente,

.....
Margarita Pérez



Universidad Internacional de las Américas Código de Ética

La suscrita María Fernanda Rivera Umaña, número de carné:16001506 y cedula 114360830 graduada del grado de Bachiller en Inglés de la Universidad Internacional de las Américas, se compromete a cumplir, durante el ejercicio profesional, con el Código de Ética de la Institución, que se rige por los siguientes principios:

PROBIDAD: actuar siempre con rectitud y honradez.

PRUDENCIA: actuar con pleno conocimiento de la materia sometida a su consideración.

JUSTICIA: permanente disposición hacia las funciones de la profesión, bajo los lineamientos legales que debe respetar todo profesional.

RESPONSABILIDAD: cumplir con los deberes, tanto en calidad como en oportunidad.

DISCRECIÓN: guardar respeto sobre los hechos o informaciones de los que tenga conocimiento con motivo del ejercicio profesional, sin que esto perjudique las funciones y responsabilidades.

INDEPENDENCIA DE CRITERIO: no involucrarse o comprometerse con situaciones, intereses o actividades contrarias a la moral, a la sana crítica y que, por ley, sean incompatibles con las funciones profesionales correspondientes.

DIGNIDAD Y DECORO: actuar con sobriedad y moderación.

TOLERANCIA: evidenciar una actitud paciente y de comprensión ante las opiniones divergentes que puedan expresar otras personas.

EQUILIBRIO: desempeñar las funciones profesionales con sentido práctico, buen juicio y equidad.

ACTUALIZACIÓN: comprometer parte del tiempo en actualizar los conocimientos y adaptarlos en el desarrollo de la actividad profesional.

VOCACIÓN: mostrar siempre apego al trabajo y a la educación recibida, como fundamentos para el desempeño laboral.

BUENA FE: toda conducta o comportamiento, criterio emitido y labor desempeñada debe basarse en los más altos principios éticos y tendrá como fundamento la buena fe

María Fernanda Rivera Umaña
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