

# Pre-Meeting Reflection Work

<b>Title:</b>	<i>The Gospel According to Larry</i>	<b>Author:</b>	Janet Tashjian	<b>Chapters Read:</b>	2
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Question Creator: Write 2 questions to discuss with your group.		Write your thoughts on your questions.	
1. Should everyone practice anti-commercialism?		1. This question I believe doesn't really have a correct response. On one hand commercials are ways to let your company grow by advertising your product. If companies don't advertise their product then they will never grow to be as big as companies like apple or Microsoft because nobody would of heard of the company. On the other hand though, the company usually creates the commercial to look like their product is perfect and will solve all of the audiences issues.	
2. Will Beth find out that Josh is Larry?		2. I believe that Beth will eventually find out the truth. Mainly cause Josh seem to take some of the inspiration for his sermon on issues happening from Beth's life thus Beth might eventually connect the dots on who Larry really is.	
Passages: Pick one passage that you think is especially important. Paste it here.		Why did you pick this passage? What makes it so important?	
<p>"Is there any time of the day when we're not being used and abused by the advertising companies?"</p> <p>Excerpt From The Gospel According to Larry (The Larry Series) Janet Tashjian This material may be protected by copyright.</p>		<p>I believe this passage is extremely important because this passage definitely describes how we are living. On the internet their is quite a great deal of advertisement in different ways. For example, sponsorship, ads, pictures of company logo's and photos of a companies product . Companies can expose you to mush more commercial then I can in the early 2000s due to the internet and how much we depend use the internet everyday.</p>	
Connector: Connect (or compare) what you have read to your life in some way.			
<p>One of the ideas I compare to my own life is that me and Josh are both interested in Philosophy. I honestly really want to try learning different Philosophical ideas in the future and I even have a few philosophy books from the library that I'm planning to read. I hope in the future to be as well read as he is in on different philosophy like Buddhism and what each of them mean. Josh seems to take philosophy very seriously and even hopes to major in philosophy when he is in college. I want to try reading famous philosophers like Pluto or Aristotle. I only hope I am as intellectual as Josh in the future.</p>			

<b>Character:</b> Write an adjective that describes Josh in this section of the book. Then, write an adjective that describes Larry in this section of the book.	<b>Explain,</b> using the reading from this week, how you know it's a good adjective to describe Josh. Then, explain why it is the same or different than the adjective you chose to describe Larry.
<p>I would describe Josh as a sage. He seems to be heavily into philosophy and ways to improve your life. In his youth his mother even has to force him to play outside with the other children by taking away his time for his science books. Another activity that he participated in when he was younger which was reading subject that he found interest like Buddhism and the Civil War. Moreover, Josh I think extremely wise for his age and know how to control his desires or wants.</p>	<p>Minimalistic is a word I would use to describe him because of the idea he writes about on his website. On his first few sermons he writes about shopaholics and advertisement. Especially since Josh is technically Larry and has said that he only has a total of seventy five items which is an extremely minimalistic thing to do in my opinion.</p>
<b>Vocabulary:</b> Pick one word from the reading that you didn't know or that you think your classmates won't know. Write it, look up its definition, write the definition in your own words, and write the sentence where you found the word.	
Word: Pilgrim	
What the word means (in my own words) A religious person travelling somewhere for their religion	
<p>"At first it was funny—just two or three hits a day—lonely Internet nomads with nothing better to do than read the rantings of another spiritual <u>pilgrim</u>."</p> <p>Excerpt From The Gospel According to Larry (The Larry Series) Janet Tashjian This material may be protected by copyright. Sentence where I found the word:</p>	
<b>Investigate:</b> Choose something from this section of reading that you found interesting and find more information on it. Record the information here.	
<p>Topic: The book 1984</p> <p>"Am I the only one who sees the irony of sitting in lit class reading 1984, having a discussion of Big Brother watching out for us like it's some time way in the future?"</p> <p>Excerpt From The Gospel According to Larry (The Larry Series) Janet Tashjian This material may be protected by copyright.</p>	<p>Sources: <a href="https://literarydevices.net/1984-themes/">https://literarydevices.net/1984-themes/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9ipRaLa4Jw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9ipRaLa4Jw</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBYqV2sK918">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBYqV2sK918</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tiGMX6-7VFE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tiGMX6-7VFE</a></p>

### Summary of Information (in your words):

A topic I decided to explore is the entire plot and themes of 1984. The book 1984 was published by a man named George Orwell who also wrote the famous Animal Farm, published 1984 in the year 1949. He took most of his inspiration on fascist and communist governments, however is mostly a warning on the dangers of totalitarianism. The protagonist of this book is a man named Winston Smith in the mid level class of this society, who is questioning the party (the government) that rules and ideology that it forces upon its citizens. Winston has to be very careful though since having criminal thoughts is considered "illegal" in Oceania and he very easily gets arrested by the thought police. Especially since he's being watched on telescreens by the party all of the time, at work, the street and even at his own house. This portrayed by the posters of Big Brother is watching you which is represented as sort of the party leader however, we see no proof of him existing in the book. Winston is an average citizen working in London, Oceania in the year 1984 as the title of the book says. He is tasked in working in the ministry of Truth which told by the government to be a place where they give trustworthy information to their hardworking citizens. However, this is the complete opposite of the truth. What is usually done in the ministry is changing history to make it look like the party is always right, erasing people who fall out of line evidence of ever existing and restricting the human language.

The party you see strongly discourages individualism or any idea against the government, by making new words in the English language like double thinking, newspeak, crime stop, proles and more. Double think is accepting to contradictory beliefs, for example freedom is slavery or kindness is cruelty. Newspeak is the eliminating of words in the language because the party thinks that this will make it so people don't have the vocabulary to go against the government. Crime stop is the instinct to stop the thought process of any thoughts or ideas that might be opposing the party. The proles make up around eighty five percent of the population and are the poor, uneducated because of this easily fall for propaganda, however, the proles get way more freedom than Winston's class since his class are the ones dealing with government secrets. Now that you know some of the terminology we should probably talk about Winston since he is the main character.

Winston and the rest of the citizen are forced to watch the twin minutes of hate, a short film about Emmanuel Goldstein and his followers telling everyone how the party is terrible. People usually yell while the film plays because Goldstein is portrayed as evil and an enemy to the party. Another reason because if they listen to what he says and it makes sense then that must mean that Goldstein has converted them to one of his followers. Moreover this gives false approach that there were another options other than the party in the past but, they were all deemed corrupt and evil compared to the "righteous" party. After the speech Winston realizes that it's very hard to care for someone else deeply because the party teaches its citizens when their children to trust no one else but the party. Winston eventually falls in love with a woman at workplace named Julia who shares the same hatred for Big Brother as he does. However, their love is something they can get arrested for because Winston is already married to whom he finds unsavoury wife that lives in a different house than him. However, Winston still goes through with this affair and they eventually rent a top of an old antique store from this elderly man named Mr. Charrington. Winston starts to suspect that O'Brien, one of his coworkers, is working with the rebellion. O'Brien asks them if they want the secret rebellion handbook and that they would be putting their lives at risk. However, it is revealed that there was a secret telescreen above the antique shop the whole time and that O'Brien and Mr. Charrington was actually part of the thought police the whole time and that handbook was written by O'Brien to find non-believers of the party. They torture Winston and Julia until they commit to the ways of the party. Eventually they bring Winston to room 101, this room is designed to be whatever the prisoner's worst fear is. In Winston's case it's rats thus they put his head in front of a rat in a cage and told him that if he doesn't commit to the party then the rat will eat his head. He begs them not to do this and in the final section tells O'Brien to do it to Julia instead. This act symbolizes his loss of identity and love with Julia. After he is free to go back to his job and he lives as an ideal citizen as the party sees it.

