

Name _____

Unveiling the Literary Devices in '1984'

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Imagery in "1984" contributes to the oppressive atmosphere by vividly describing the decay and hopelessness of Airstrip One. Descriptions of crumbling buildings and the ever-watchful eye of Big Brother create a sense of dread and despair, immersing readers in the story's oppressive world.
2. The symbol of Big Brother represents the party's control and omnipresence, the diary symbolizes individuality and resistance, and the red-armed prole woman represents the possibility of freedom and rebellion. These symbols convey deeper meanings and serve as powerful tools for conveying the novel's themes of control, manipulation, and hope.
3. Irony in "1984" serves to emphasize the novel's themes and message by highlighting the contrast between what is expected and what actually happens. Dramatic irony, where readers know more than the characters, creates tension and underscores the party's control. The overall ironic tone of the novel adds layers of meaning and commentary on totalitarianism.
4. Dystopian elements such as surveillance, thought control, and propaganda contribute to the novel's portrayal of a totalitarian society by illustrating the extent of the party's control. Surveillance instills fear and paranoia, thought control restricts freedom of thought, and propaganda manipulates reality. These elements shape the story and characters, emphasizing the oppressive nature of the society.

