

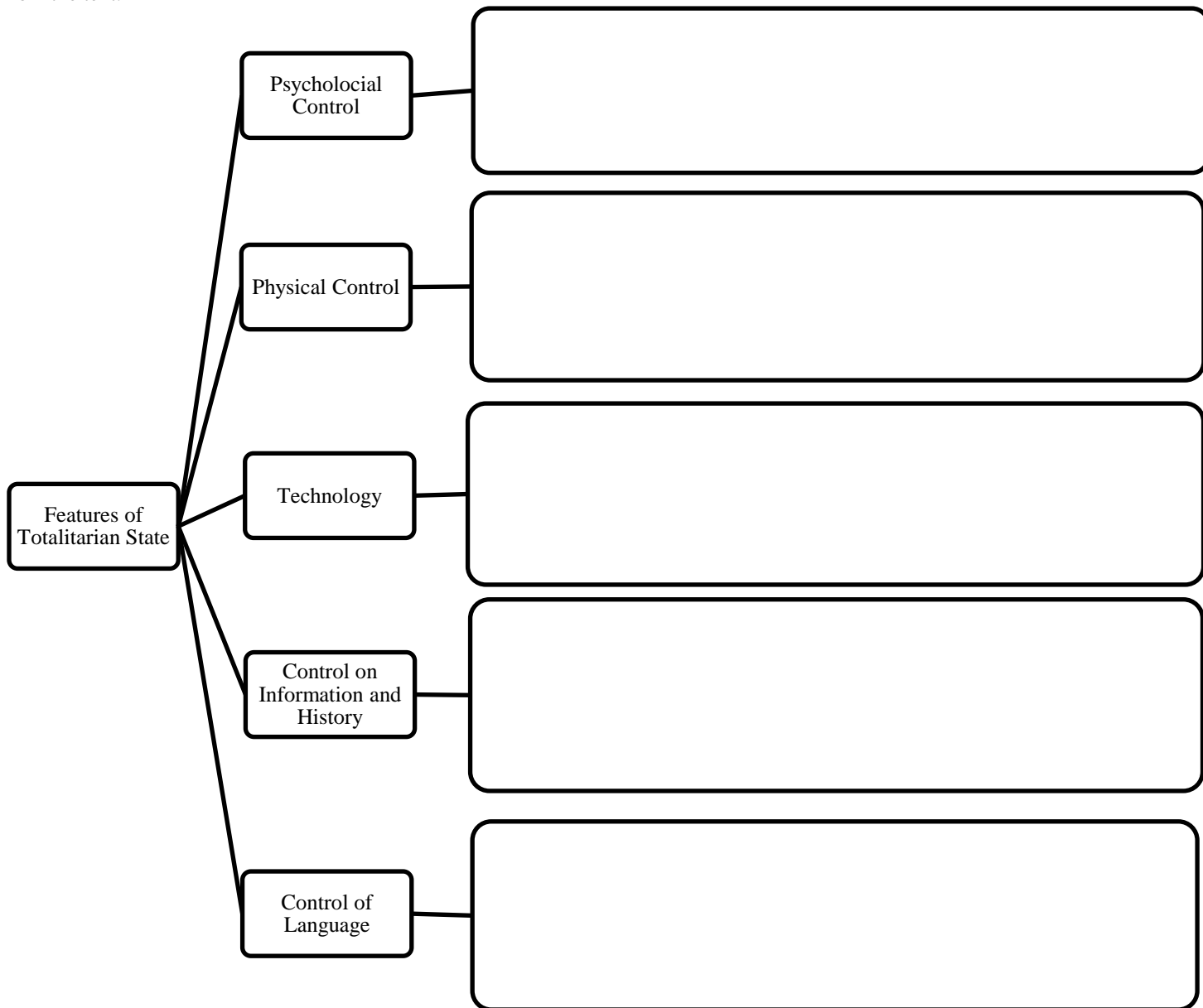
1984 Summer Reading

A. ANNOTATE your text either through highlighting and writing in the book or through the use of post it notes. This will be checked upon your return to school and will be graded. It is critical as move forward through this unit that you have done this.

B. Here is a list of the main characters in the book. For each, devise a list of the major plot points associated with the character. Who are these people? How do they relate to the story? What happens to the character and how do those actions illustrate the main points of the novel?

1. Winston Smith
2. Julia
3. O'Brien
4. Syme
5. Mr. Charrington
6. Mr. Parsons
7. Emmanuel Goldstein

C. In *1984*, George Orwell creates a horrible totalitarian state, a government which seeks to control all aspects of life within society. Using the graphic organizer below, discuss how the government seeks to accomplish its totalitarian goals. Cite specific examples from the text.



D. Below you will find term/concepts, quotes, and questions that relate to the plot and themes of *1984*. Explain each, making notes as appropriate. If a quote is cited, identify who said it.

1. Identify and discuss the following terms:
 - Thought crime
 - Ingsoc
 - Doublethink
 - Newspeak
2. “War is Peace; Freedom is Slavery; Ignorance is Strength”.
3. Discuss the idea of hatred and how it was used by the party (e.g., Two Minutes Hate, Hate Week, etc.)
4. “No one dares trust a wife, child, or friend any longer . . . there will be no loyalty, except loyalty to the party.” Discuss the idea of loyalty as it related to Big Brotherhood and society in *1984*.
5. “But she only questioned the teachings of the party when they in some way touched upon her own life”; “I am not worried about the future dear, I am only worried about us.” Elaborate on these quotes—who is it referring to? How do these quotes tie to the theme of the book?
6. How does the Party use war to maintain and justify its existence and control over society? Consider this quote from the Book: “it follows that the three super-states cannot conquer one another, but would gain no advantage by doing so”).
7. “There was a whole chain of separate departments dealing with separate literature, music, drama and entertainment generally. Here were produced rubbishy newspapers, containing almost nothing except sport, crime, and astrology, sensational five cent novelettes...” Discuss how the media was used for both the proles and the Party.
8. “What opinions the masses hold, or do not hold, is looked on as a matter of indifference. They can be granted intellectual liberty because they have no intellect.” What does this say about society in the novel? Does it relate in any way to society today?
9. Do Big Brother, Goldstein, the Brotherhood actually exist?
10. Discuss a typical prole—what’s his/her life like? How does the Party control them? Given this, why does Winston think that “hope lies with the proles”?
11. “Beyond the late 50’s everything faded. When there were no external records that you could refer to, even the outline of your own life lost its sharpness”
12. “We shall meet in the place where there is no darkness”

E. Though *1984* presents a dystopian view of the future, are there any ways in which American society today has elements of *1984*? What features in American life today might be considered “totalitarian”? Discuss...