

**1984** Newspeak Words

Throughout *1984*, Orwell introduces words that are part of the language Newspeak, which aims to eliminate words that could be considered unorthodox.

Pay attention as these words are introduced in the novel, and, using your own words, complete the chart with each word's definition.

Newspeak Word	Definition
doublethink	<i>the act of accepting multiple contradictory ideas at the same time</i>
thoughtcrime	
blackwhite	
unperson	
ownlife	
facecrime	
goodthinker	
duckspeak	
crimestop	

RL.11-12.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 11–12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Answer Key

Newspeak Word	Definition
doublethink	<i>the act of accepting multiple contradictory ideas at the same time</i>
thoughtcrime	<i>to think unorthodox thoughts</i>
blackwhite	<i>the willingness to say and know that black is white and to forget that one ever believed the contrary</i>
unperson	<i>someone who has been vaporized, or killed, by the government</i>
ownlife	<i>the subversive tendency to enjoy being individualistic</i>
facecrime	<i>a facial expression that suggests one is thinking unorthodox thoughts</i>
goodthinker	<i>someone who only has orthodox thoughts</i>
duckspeak	<i>to speak without thinking</i>
crimestop	<i>to prevent oneself from having unorthodox thoughts</i>