

Postmodernism & Dystopia

Guiding Question: How does each author's dystopian vision reflect Post Modernistic Ideals?

Your Task:

- Fill out a data sheet for each of the novels assigned.
- Choose three characteristics from the Post Modernism supplemental reading, such as parody, intertextuality, and/or grand narrative. You should keep track of this in a personal journal that will not be collected, but used on your first assignment of the 2018 – 19 school year. You need to write clearly and concisely, not abundantly. Below are some things to consider...

Reflect on the time period the novel was written and published (anyone notice a pattern here?):

A Clockwork Orange (1962) – post WWII, restrictive 1950s, Cold War in full swing (Post Korean War – ramping up of Vietnam War)

The Handmaid's Tale (1985) – Cold War, Nuclear Arms Race

The Road (2005) – post 9/11, terrorism

- How does each novel treat sex – it's not always explicitly mentioned, but it is there...
- Look at how language is used in the three novels; while it may be more subtle in The Handmaid's Tale, there is something definitely going on.
- Discuss the way these three novels express their own dystopias, and more importantly, how each dystopia and style defines them as a postmodernist work. This is probably the most difficult and requires your analysis of the previous aspects, as well as what each novel proposes about the human condition.

Use the supplemental reading to help you in your understanding.

There will be an extended essay upon returning to school.