**1984 and Fahrenheit 9/11 (or other approved text) essay topics**

1. **How relevant is Orwell’s vision of the future? In what ways does our contemporary society compare to that of *1984*? More specifically, to what extent can parallels be drawn between the tactics of the fictional Party and O’Brien (for example, the manipulation of emotions in order to achieve and maintain power, *Crimestop*, etc.) and the tactics of today’s politicians/political groups?**
2. **In relation to Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, discuss how those in power in 1984 and in the today’s world use language/communication (verbal, non-verbal, visual) to convince a population that those needs are being fulfilled while simultaneously maintaining political power.**
3. **Discuss the circumstances necessary for a population to surrender privacy in order to attain security and why those in power want access to our private lives.**

**You need to base your analysis on Orwell’s novel *and* on at least one contemporary political speech, television ad, or similar text by a political group or politician that provides evidence of the tactic you select. As with other prompts, you must address the “SO WHAT?”**