

The Muddled World of Clarity

The progenitors of the dystopic Hades in the novel, Nineteen Eight-Four, have an anti-synonym philosophy that, on the surface, seems rather limiting. One word for one idea. It is a bland, simple, and absolute system, pursued and policed with a psychopathic enthusiasm. It seems crazy.

But when encountering a world with near infinite words and a multiplex of synonyms, it is possible to sympathize with the language police, especially when we read something that is meant to be clear, and ends up perplexing us.

The guilty are numerous.

Children's stories. Menus. Instructions. Advertisements. Classifieds. Brochures. News-leads.

So let's punish them by "*obfuscatingly*" satirizing these (supposed) agents of clarity.

Choose a non-fiction or fictional - in the case of a children's story - text to obfuscate. Do not choose something too long.

- advertisement
- recipe
- brochure
- children's story
- instructions
- craigslist post
- news-lead

Use a thesaurus to obfuscate the text. You will probably be writing more than the original.

Make sure your grammar is solid. You are only trying to HIDE meaning, not eliminate it.

Prepare to read the OBFUSCATED text to your classmates. Read it like it is NORMAL and EASILY UNDERSTOOD by the audience, even though it probably will not be.

[[EVALUATION]]

TO BE DETERMINED COLLABORATIVELY.

[[EXPECTATIONS]]

1.1 generate and explore ideas for potential writing projects independently through reflection, reading, listening, viewing, and research

1.2 use text forms and stylistic elements in experimental ways to develop an effective personal writing style