**English 12 Exam – Research Essay**

You will have the majority of the 70-minute exam period to construct a research-based essay that connects one or more major “major ideas” from the book *1984* to the recent controversy over Sony’s release of *The Interview*, the hacking into Sony by North Korea, the censorship of the movie, or the reaction of the United States to the hacking/censorship of the movie. **Possible** “major ideas” from *1984* that can be focal points of your research/essay are:

* individual freedoms/privacy rights
* censorship (by government or self-imposed)
* technology as a means of control (either government control or terrorism)
* freedom of expression
* totalitarian regimes and their attempts to “control” others

For this particular paper, it is best to select one-to-two ideas to focus on, use your book to locate specific passages from *1984*, then use online media outlets to research the Sony/North Korea to locate specific sources that will connect to your major idea(s).

**Exam-day parameters –**

* Only essays typed during the exam period will be graded (no typing is allowed beforehand…hand-written notes, or a hand-written draft, are both acceptable)
* Essays must be shared or e-mailed to Mr. Fielder by the end of the exam period.
* All research, organization, and planning should be completed BEFORE the exam period…the exam period should be used for TYPING ONLY
* Essays should be between 1 and 2 pages typed (MLA format)
* Sources should be documented in MLA format
* A properly formatted MLA works cited page should be submitted BEFORE the exam period
* Plan on typing a brief introduction and conclusion, including a thesis statement

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