

In a 1949 review of George Orwell's *1984*, Lionel Trilling writes:

The whole effort of the culture of the last hundred years has been directed toward teaching us to understand the economic motive as the irrational road to death, and to seek salvation in the rational and the planned. Orwell marks a turn in thought; he asks us to consider whether the triumph of certain forces of the mind, in their naked pride and excess, may not produce a state of things far worse than any we have ever known.

Evaluate Trilling's argument in the above statement. Then, in a well-written essay, drawing upon personal experience, literature, current events, history, or other source of reliable information, defend, challenge, or qualify Trilling's summary of Orwell's argument: "whether the triumph of certain forces of the mind, in their naked pride and excess, may not produce a state of things far worse than any we have ever known."