Class Activities on Wednesday 12th March 2014

1984 – Chapter 6 Quiz on proprofs

1. FOLLOW THE LINK and complete the questionnaire on chapter 6 of Part 1 in George Orwell's 1984 : http://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=NjU3MzM5G7WC
2) PROLES (see definition below): Much of chapters 5 & 6 makes derogatory comments about the Proles.  There are **implied judgments about their character** through the descriptions given. Complete the table below and give to your teacher before the end of the lesson
3) Extend your ability by describing how Wikus in District 9 is subject to judgments about his character and describe in detail the relevant scenes in District 9.
4) Extend your ability by writing about how society makes judgments on an individual who you have observed in the news.
2. PROLES?

Oceania's society is divided into three distinct classes: Inner Party, Outer Party  and proles (with their own upper, middle and lower classes). The proles constitute 85% of the population; they receive little education, work at manual labour, live in poverty (although in having privacy and anonymity, qualitatively better off than Outer Party members), and usually die by the age of sixty.

Winston's Diary Entry about Proles

Quote from the book

..there was a lot of applause from the party seats but a woman down in the prole part of the house suddenly started kicking up a fuss and shouting "they didnt oughter of showed it not in front of kids they didn't it ain't right not in front of kids it ain't until the police turned her turned her out I don't suppose anything happened to her nobody cares what the proles say typical prole reaction they never - -
....He did not know what had made him pour out this stream of rubbish.

Implication from within the text

This diary entry shows that the Proles are the lower working class. The woman who Winston writes about does not speak properly using slang terms such as; "oughter" and "ain't". There is also a suggestion that Oceania segregates the people in this society because Winston says "in the prole part of the house".

How does this show prejudice?

Prejudice is a preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience. The reader must assume that Winston has not had much experience of spending time with proles and that this judgments are based on what he has learned through Big Brother social media or propaganda. Winston's opinions of the proles are therefore pre-decided and based on his learnt knowledge rather than his actual experience. Ironically, Winston's diary entry shows that the proles have shown a greater level of intelligence in her comments that the hanging shouldn't have been shown to the younger members of society.

*Complete the following table with your own analysis.*

