

Learning outcomes	Topic (s)	Course Section	Text Type	Title
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • influence of government policy • influence of propaganda • manipulation of audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drones • corruption • privacy • government policy 	Part 1: Language in Cultural Context & Part 2: Language and mass communication	Short Story	The Shadow Creatures, a combative guide to drones

Rationale:

My inspiration for this written task stemmed from George Orwell’s satirical novel, 1984. The book’s grim outlook on the future, technically the age we are living in now, provoked me to think about the extent to which his visions were true and what could potentially happen to the human population in the future. I centered my work around the quote, ‘ignorance is strength’ and the current controversial drone debate, yet set the story in the future, where it could be hypothesized over what will happen with drones and privacy.

I read up on drones and found legislature that permitted the use of them in the commercial air space, alongside information about the development of drones and the different forms they are taking such as birds and insects.

Through looking at the influence of government policy I wanted to take a critical outlook on how this could and has impacted us in terms of laws surrounding drones. I also wanted to create a propaganda piece, but one that was outside of the norm, that manipulated the audience to turn themselves in to the government, rather than the generic and converse propaganda piece.

I wanted to pose a critical look at the government and fit it into a story that took a twist that would potentially leave the reader confused and overwhelmed. I hoped this would mirror the situation many innocent peoples have encountered with drone attacks, believing that they were implemented for their protection, but then losing a loved one or their own life in an unprecedented attack.



THE SHADOW CREATURES

a combative guide to drones

Bailey Dobier

The Shadow Creatures
a combative guide to drones

Foreword:

Congratulations on discovering this book. We trust you will keep it safe and use it with the utmost discretion in the eyes of Them. We, The Drowsy Ones, now consider you to be a part of our team and know you will take it upon yourself to disarm Them as fully as possible. Remember, 'ignorance is strength,' and we do not want to give Them that piece of mind.

We have all been asleep these past few years, drowsing as They built Their monopolizing empires. Life may seem as normal, but try and remember how the past was. Can you, or is it all just a blur that makes today seem fine and 'normal'? That's exactly how They crafted it, tweaking, changing and reinventing day by day, moving unnoticed in the shadows before people like us became aware.

It's as if someone sped up existence, yet only one second at a time, so that at first it was unnoticeable, until all at once life lay in the dust on your shoes, a forgotten and ambitious enterprise.

Unfortunately this numbness, this unfeelingness, is a natural progression of life, a blurring comforter that comes with learning what the real world is like and realizing that you don't want to be a part of it. But that is where we come in, because unless people like us dare to open our eyes and really look at the world, we will continue to feel nothing into the abyss of forever.

We may only be waking from our ignorant slumbers, yet we are becoming stronger with every wakeful move our sinewy limbs make. One of those moves is the very book you hold in your hands.

Our aim is to provide explicit awareness on what were once widely known as drones, yet have now slipped into obscurity. Please use this guide to wake from your dreams and fuel your movements with a newfound purpose. We want to reclaim our world, reclaim our minds, reclaim our people and reclaim our privacy.

If you believe in this cause as we do, please sign this pledge to show your commitment:

I pledge to wholeheartedly fight alongside The Drowsy Ones in order to combat the terms of life They have imposed on us. I will fight for our world, I will fight for our minds, I will fight for our people and I will fight for our privacy.

Sign here:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a solid black horizontal line.

Thank you for signing. You have now proven your loyalty to us and your willingness to fight against the Government and Their life destroying drones.

History and Guide to Drones:

The history of drones is a black one, filled with murder, intrigue and finally the pit of the unknown. For only a short period of time in history did we ever know about drones. Initially there was mild uproar, before the very drones that caused the uneasiness, quelled it. The fighters disappeared. One by one they were taken in the night, some diagnosed with terminal illnesses, others drafted into war, even more killed in freak accidents and others silenced with threats. The mafia of the sky took over and years passed. Both the uproar and the drones were forgotten. But They have been building Their army and it is stronger than ever. Invisible figures plague our very existence, marking every thought, measuring every breath and sensing every heartbeat. They calculate our emotions and actions, readjust our lives with the whir of an engine and condemn us with reports of every conspicuous move.

No longer will these Shadow Creatures lie in the dark, however. Through our knowledge and strength we will uncover and disarm Their forces, forces which have killed well over a million people in their silent raids.

Perhaps now Their work is illegal, but at the very beginning it was readily passed in Congress with section 322 of the COMMERCIAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS INTEGRATION PLAN. This plan stated that, “the Secretary of Transportation... shall develop a comprehensive plan to safely integrate commercial unmanned aircraft systems into the national air space system.’

Sometimes we deliberately step into traps and sometimes we are born into them, but this time it was both. Our eyes were too closed to see what was going on around us, but by that time They were already powerful enough to pass the bill without a fight. It may have claimed to be ‘safe,’ but if its intentions were to kill and condemn, how could this have ever been believed?

And even now with you on board, dear reader, and with all the other ‘Drowsy Ones’ on board, we will not make it. They have already taken so many lives and it will not cost much to take ours either. Sadly it is now that I must admit a truth, because, dear reader, you are still sleeping...



We were lying.

Unfortunately for you we are not well meaning citizens and we are not your friends.

We are the government and you have been condemned through reading this book.

We know you signed the agreement and we know you plan on rebelling.

If you regret your actions there is a possibility we can find a use for you.

If not you will soon find out what we have in store.

Sleep tight.

Sincerely yours,

'The Shadow Creatures'