



What is a dystopian world?

Dystopian worlds often portray a society that has deteriorated due to extreme political, social, or environmental conditions. These worlds are typically marked by oppression and a lack of personal freedoms.

Common features (conventions) include:

Authoritarian Rule: A singular, powerful leadership often enforces harsh laws.

Propaganda: Media manipulation to control public perception and maintain the status quo.

Surveillance: Constant monitoring of individuals to suppress dissent and enforce conformity.

Destruction of Nature: Environmental degradation often reflects the neglect or misuse of resources.

Plot Overview

"The Hunger Games" is set in a dystopian future where the nation of Panem is divided into 12 districts, each controlled by the wealthy and powerful Capitol. Every year, the Capitol selects one boy and one girl from each district to participate in the Hunger Games—a televised fight to the death meant to maintain control and remind the districts of the Capitol's power.

Key Vocabulary			
Key word	Definition	Key word	Definition
Dystopia	An imagined state or society in which there is great suffering or injustice.	Personification	the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human, or the representation of an abstract quality in human form.
Totalitarianism	An imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect.	Conventions	The features typical of a genre of writing
Governed	Ruled by an authority figure or group.	Inference	A conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning.
Surveillance	Close observation of a person or thing.	Juxtaposition	Two contrasting things placed together.
Perspective	A particular attitude towards or way of regarding something; a point of view.	Sensory language	Refers to the use of words to create a connection to any of the five senses.

Key Characters

Katniss Everdeen: The protagonist of the series, who volunteers to take her sister's place in the Hunger Games. She is resourceful, brave, and compassionate, often questioning the morality of the games.

Peeta Mellark: The boy tribute from District 12 who has a complicated relationship with Katniss. He is strategic and caring, often using his charm and cunning to survive.

Gale Hawthorne: Katniss's best friend and hunting partner from District 12. He represents a more rebellious approach to the Capitol's oppression.

Effie Trinket: The chaperone for District 12's tributes, representing the Capitol's superficiality and disconnect from the harsh realities of the districts.

Haymitch Abernathy: A former victor of the Hunger Games who mentors Katniss and Peeta, embodying the struggle against addiction and trauma faced by survivors.

Suggested Reading

To deepen understanding of dystopian fiction, students can explore the following titles:



"1984" by George Orwell - A classic work of dystopian literature that explores totalitarianism, surveillance, and the loss of individual freedom.

"Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley - A thought-provoking look at a technologically advanced society that sacrifices individuality for stability and happiness.

"Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury - A novel about a future where books are banned, and 'firemen' burn any that are discovered.

"The Giver" by Lois Lowry - A story about a seemingly perfect society that hides dark secrets and suppressed emotions.

"Divergent" by Veronica Roth - A tale of a society divided into factions based on virtues, exploring themes of identity and choice.