Utopia Dystopia

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The Goals of this Class:

- Discuss the past, present, and future
- Understand government, social structures, ethics, and all that good stuff
- Respect each other’s opinions
- Devise plans to turn a dystopia into a utopia!
**One of these foods can't exist anymore. Which one do you pick?**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pancakes</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>Waffles</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>French toast</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>Cinnamon buns</td>
<td>D</td>
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Utopia

- A perfect society, especially in laws, government, and socio-economic conditions
- Often imaginary or idealistic
A utopia for some can be a dystopia for others....

- Nazi Germany - Aryan utopia, but dystopia for literally everyone else
- Massachusetts Bay Colony - originally founded as “City on a Hill” where Puritans had religious freedom, but banned all other denominations and religions
“The Allegory of Good and Bad Government” by Ambrogio Lorenzetti (1337-1339)
Wisdom
Justice
Peace
Prudence
Magnanimity
Temperance
Community
“The Garden of Earthly Delights” by Hieronymus Bosch (c. 1500)
Elements of a Utopia
Local Example: Brook Farm & the Shakers

- Experimental village in West Roxbury (1841-47)
- “Combine the thinker and the worker”
- “Mental freedom”
- “Wholesome and simple life”
- Equality of the sexes
- Pacifism
- Communal lifestyle
Where do we see utopian elements today?
Where do we see utopian elements today?

- Low population density
- Healthcare, stability scored 100%
- Infrastructure scored 96%
- Education scored 91.7%
- Government transparency
- Finns are culturally a fun-loving and polite people
- Environmentally proactive
- Saunas

Helsinki, Finland
Where do we see utopian elements today?

Melbourne, Australia

- Infrastructure, education, healthcare scored 100%
- Most “livable” city in 2017
- Top notch art, music, theater
- Highly diversified economy
- Low crime, low terror
- Warm climate
- Peaceful coexistence of large, varied immigrant groups (Europeans, Indians, and Chinese)
But if the attempt fails....
A dystopia may form
A dystopia may form

Excesses of human vices: greed, avarice, gluttony, etc.
Dystopia

● An imaginary place where people are unhappy and usually afraid because they are not treated fairly
● Many times arise from failed attempts at utopias
“The Allegory of Good and Bad Government” by Ambrogio Lorenzetti (1337-1339)
Blade Runner (1982)
What are elements of a dystopia?

When poll is active, respond at PollEv.com/josephc611
What are some examples of a dystopia (both fictional and real)?
BBC Special on the Hungarian Revolution (1956)
Choose your dystopia:

- Hunger Games
- Mad Max
- The Road
- Handmaid's Tale
- Fahrenheit 451
- The Giver
- Blade Runner
- Brave New World
- 1984
- Anything else you can think of!
Brainstorm & Share:

- The main problems of your dystopian society
- The causes of these problems
Utopian Scenarios to work towards?

- What kind of utopia do you want to create from this dystopia?
- From where would you draw inspiration?
In the coming classes: What makes a utopia?

- Equality
- Law and Order
- Equal distribution
- Happiness
- Freedom (of...?)
What are the major components of a society, economy, and government?

- Taxes
- Law and Order
- Human Nature
- Jobs
- Food
- Infrastructure
- And more!