

Mr. Savage's Grade 12 Summer Reading: *DOWN AND OUT IN PARIS AND LONDON* by George Orwell

This summer, students in Mr. Savage's grade 12 English class are expected to read George Orwell's autobiographical novel *Down and Out in Paris and London*. In the book, Orwell narrates the adventures of a penniless British writer who finds himself toiling in a series of low-paying menial jobs in two great European capitals. With its unflinching attention to detail, memorable characters, and moments of genuine humor despite the grim settings, *Down and Out in Paris and London* addresses truths about poverty and society in a lively and personal way.

As students read, they are expected to answer two questions, one about the first half of the book (Paris), posted at the start of July, and one about the second half of the book (London), posted by the beginning of August. At that point, there will also be a writing assignment about the book as a whole. The specifics of the writing assignment will be included in the August post, and will be due at the start of school.

Questions and the writing assignment will be posted on the following website: room105online.blogspot.com. Answers to the questions can be posted in the comments section of the blog – more specific instructions will be included in the posts with the questions.

I'm looking forward to hearing your reactions to this compelling tale, especially as we look at other works by George Orwell during the school year.