Eric Blair was an English novelist and radio journalist. He is known by his pen name George Orwell. He is the author of Nineteen Eighty-Four and Animal Farm.

Orwell was born in India and educated in England. He served for five years in the Burmese police force and also spent some time living as a tramp, earning a bit of money by washing dishes. He used these experiences later in some of his novels, as well as the memories of his time he spent fighting for the Republicans in the Spanish Civil War. Orwell worked as a journalist, but he became famous as a novelist in the last few years of his life.

In 1945 he wrote Animal Farm. The book describes how some farm animals first get rid of their harsh master, Mr Jones, only to suffer even worse cruelties from their own ruthless pig-rulers. In fact, Orwell was really attacking the way that the Russian Revolution of 1917 was betrayed by the tyrant Stalin, who ended up behaving even more badly than the former tsar. Three years later, in 1948, Orwell wrote Nineteen Eighty-Four, a novel set in what was then the future. It described a bleak world where workers must exercise every day in front of a “tele-screen” which also spies on them. Anyone showing any signs of independence is caught and executed. It is a powerful novel describing the horrors of total dictatorship.

Change the sentences into he past tense:

Eric Blair was a journalist. His pen name is George Orwell. He goes to school in England. He serves in the police forces. He lives as a tramp. He earns money by washing dishes. He fights for the Republicans in the Spanish Civil War. He becomes famous as a novelist. He writes Animal Farm in 1945. The book becomes a best seller. Nineteen Eighty-Four describes the horrors of dictatorship. Orwell invents a new language. He calls it Newspeak. The word bad becomes ungood, great is changed into plusgood. The ministry of love is actually the place of torture for people who commit thoughtcrime. Orwell creates new slogans: BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU or FREEDOM IS SLAVERY.