Vast crowds gathered in London's Trafalgar Square to celebrate the victorious end of the First World War on 11 November 1918. However, the joyous mood was short-lived. Post-war Britain, as many contemporary observers noted, did not seem like a country that had just experienced a great military triumph. Various political, economic and social problems ensured that the return to peacetime conditions was not a soft landing.

In economic terms, the First World War - fought at an estimated cost of $208 billion - caused the greatest global depression of the 20th century. Debts accrued by all of the major combatants, with the notable exception of the USA, stalked the post-war economic world. In Weimar Germany hyperinflation meant that by December 1923, a loaf of bread cost 428 billion marks. The First World War abruptly ended a period of relative economic prosperity, replacing it with two decades of economic misery.

To these figures must be added the 15 million men who were crippled by their service in the First World War. In Germany alone, 2.7 million soldiers returned home with permanent disabilities. Only 800,000 of them received invalidity pensions. The on-going cost of the war can be seen in the fact that, in Britain during the late 1930s, 639,000 ex-soldiers and officers were still drawing disability pensions. This figure includes 65,000 men whose disabilities were not physical but mental. Some servicemen were so traumatised by their experiences in the First World War that they spent the rest of their lives in hospital.

After the First World War the countries decided to settle differences by creating the treaty of Versailles. I have a listed a few main pints from the treaty. Though the countries signed the treaty none of them were fully satisfied, particularly Germany who felt they had been treated unfairly. This lead to the 2nd world war.

Orwell wrote 1984 after WW2.

Big Brother is supposed to have taken control of Europe after WW2.

Big Brother draws many ties from Adolph Hitler and his dictating persona. Orwell used Big Brother to show evil doesn’t just have to be in Germany, he wanted to show it could happen anywhere in the world.