

Utopias and Dystopias

Listen and fill in the missing words.

concept / directly / opposite / best / extension / fantasy / oppressive / worst / society /
derive / survive / apocalypse / steps / end up

Part 1 Now the term “dystopia” derives obviously from the word “utopia” because it is its....., it is its antithesis, the anti-idea, the opposing idea, the reversing of the..... A dystopia is the reverse of a utopia. Rather than being the ideal, perfectwe want to go to, this is when society is so bad, it is sothat all you want is escape So dystopia is the worst of society. Utopia the....., dystopia the.....

Part 2 Many of the stories that we have derivefrom our society. Well, you think it must, because otherwise it would just be a..... So these societies, in these dystopic stories, start with us, theyfrom us. Now, many of them, I wanna call “post-apocalyptic”, that means they are after the....., after something big and bad has destroyed society as we know it, and people are stumbling along, struggling to..... Now the reason it derives from us is that either ... it will have happened already and you’re describing history, or ... it hasn’t happened yet, in which case we are here and it is a potential if we take certain....., we will end up there... So, see where this is going? We willin the world of Panem playing the Hunger Games because it is a directof where we are now.

A conference extract by Pr Beagley at La Trobe University, Australia