Chapter- I: Introduction

This chapter explores the English writers' mindset especially during 1920's and 1930's and the background against which they were writing. In this chapter the history of satire has been explored right from the time of Persius, Horace and Juvenal - all considered to be classical masters of satire. Chaucer and Langland also find mention here as they too are renowned in this genre.

The Age of Restoration in England was the age of political satire and both Dryden and Pope stand out as towering figures. Swift too holds a special position for his generalized satire. The sole objective of the satirists can rightly be said to correct the vices of society.

George Orwell, too set out to highlight the discrepancies in the political system out of a sense of concern for diluting the power of evil in the world of politics. And at the end of the day, we find that he succeeds to a very great extent in expressing his socio-political views, and his commitment to bring about a radical change for the betterment of society.

Chapter- II: Social and Political Background

In this chapter the causes of Orwell's all-round disillusionment are
explored. His experiences are traced beginning with St. Cyprian's, then his bitter experiences as a police officer in Burma; after that his life in Paris and London and Spain.

It is maintained that he was also deeply disillusioned with Communism in Soviet Russia and Socialism in England. The two World Wars had a catastrophic effect on him and the lack of spirit of compromise in society turned him into a "radical pessimist". He was witness to the hollow idealism woven around the political institutions of his time. This essentially seeks the grounds of his thoughts which led to his transformation from Eric Blair to George Orwell.

Chapter - III : Orwell the Socialist

In this chapter, Orwell's development as a socialist is explored. It is argued that Orwell does not advocate the establishment of a golden world free from exploitations. What he essentially pleads for is a reformation of society. However, he is sensible enough to realize that complete transformation is an impossibility. Corruption, at certain level, is bound to persist in society. What he desires in his concept of socialism is that this should be limited to a somewhat reasonable level. Orwell, under certain conditions goes to the extent of advocating revolution or even violence in society; but the
avowed objective of this should be to only curb the evil forces of society. He was a firm believer in the innate goodness in human nature and this goodness should he highlighted publicly; otherwise corruption, exploitation and discontent shall rule the roost.

Chapter- IV: Satire in Animal Farm and Nineteen Eighty Four

In this chapter elements of satire and irony have been discussed in Animal Farm and Nineteen Eighty Four. It has been evaluated that Orwell's novels are primarily satires, neither "invective" nor "clownish jeering". Orwell's theme of totalitarianism is mostly discussed with reference to these two novels. The myth of Moscow as a heaven on earth and Stalin as God began to be exploded in England with the publication of Animal Farm.

Animal Farm (1945) is a blistering attack on Stalin and his betrayal of the Russian Revolution. Right from the very first chapter Animal Farm is replete with passages and episodes of wit and humour.

Nineteen Eighty Four, the last novel of Orwell is a dark foreboding about an age which can be compared to a sinking ship. Orwell's satirical shaft is greeted against the tele-screen civilization, totalitarianism and pseudo-secularism.
Chapter - V: Other Works

In this chapter, Orwell's other works are discussed. A couple of them Down and Out in Paris and London and Burmese Days are basically autobiographical in nature and almost all of his other novels deal with the theme of poverty and humiliations of an impoverished society.

The same continued in A Clergyman's Daughter, and Keep the Aspidistra Flying the later has a happy ending, though. Ethics of a healthy relationship has been highlighted here and this novel can be described as a socio-political document exposing the corruption of the bourgeois society.

In Road to Wigan Pier, Orwell wants to stress the hollowness of industrialized civilization which looks glittering and sparkling from outside but is a like a rotten apple from within.

Chapter - VI : Conclusion

Various loose ands are tied and Orwell's place in the tradition of satirists is determined. It is argued that Orwell was a serious satirist who used satire as means of conveying his "ideology" or his perception of society as it should be to the reader. Orwell's satire is not frivolous, that is why his works have survived the test of time.