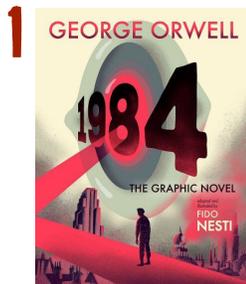
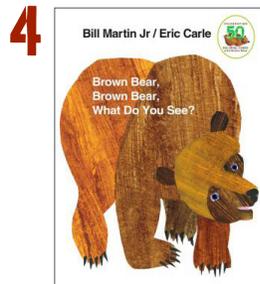


QUIZ “WHY WAS THIS BOOK BANNED?”



1984: The Graphic Novel, George Orwell and Fido Nesti

- A Thoughtcrime
- B Sexual content
- C Book banners love irony
- D “The original was better”



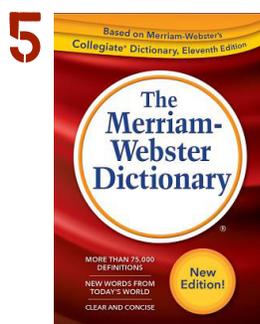
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? Bill Martin and Eric Carle

- A What *does* Brown Bear see? It could be obscene!
- B Bears are scary
- C Brown Bear is a furry
- D Author was confused for a different Bill Martin, author of *Ethical Marxism* — which, by the way, is also constitutionally protected free speech



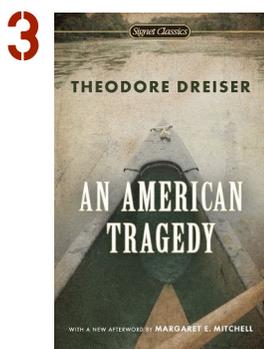
The Bluest Eye, Toni Morrison

- A “EDI” (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) content
- B Frankly, they prefer *Beloved*
- C Inappropriate use of a superlative. Can something really be the “bluest”?
- D How do we know that I see the same color blue that you see, and that my blue isn’t your red? ...Woah. I just blew my own mind.



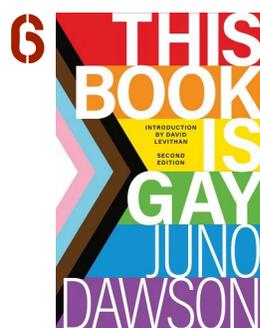
The Merriam-Webster Dictionary

- A Kids can’t talk back if they don’t know any words!
- B A word’s meaning is historically unstable and cannot be prescriptively defined
- C Includes an accurate definition of the term “oral sex”
- D “It was just too dense, I couldn’t get through it”



An American Tragedy, Theodore Dreiser

- A Dreiser was a member of the American Communist Party
- B The implication that tragedy could occur in America
- C Too much Zolaesque description
- D We don’t know, because AI made the decision



This Book is Gay, Juno Dawson

- A ...
- B ...
- C ...
- D I mean, do we really have to ask?

SEE THE ANSWERS >

ANSWERS TO "WHY WAS THIS BOOK BANNED?" QUIZ

1. **B, Sexual content.** Kirkwood School District, Missouri, 2022. Missouri law bans "sexual content." Per *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*
2. **A, "EDI" (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) content.** Banned in school districts in New Jersey, Florida, Texas, and Utah, while it is banned pending investigation in many more school districts. Per PEN America.
3. **D, We don't know, because AI made the decision.** Mason City School District, Iowa, 2023. Per "Book Club," *The Washington Post*.
4. **D, Author was confused for a different Bill Martin, author of "Ethical Marxism" — which, by the way, is also constitutionally protected free speech.** Texas State Board of Education, 2010. Per *The Dallas Morning News*.
5. **C, Includes an accurate definition of the term "oral sex."** Menifee Union School District, California, 2010. Per *The Guardian*.
6. **Any.** Banned in school districts in Missouri, California, and Utah. Stated reasons (per PEN America) include "LGBTQ+ content, providing sexual education, claimed to be sexually explicit."