



Coming to terms with John Stuart Mill

Mill was a philosopher and published *On Liberty* in 1859. Therefore, how he uses language and words in *All Minus One* may be unfamiliar to students. Based on the reading level of students, either read the essay as a class or assign the reading of the essay for homework. Then, students must come to terms with the author to truly understand the essay; students must understand the important words used by Mill and what he means by those words. See the discussion and activity guide for How to Read a Book for more guidance on activities that will help students come to terms while reading and engaging in dialogue.

Here is a list of important words that students will need to have a grasp of to understand the essay. While students read, they may develop their own list of terms.

Terms

Fallacy	Doctrine/Dogma	Pacification	Despotism	Partisan
Infallible	Heretics/Heresy	Reticence	Conviction	Polemic
Preponderance	Persecution	Orthodox	Creed	Vituperation
Corrigible	Ad misericordiam	Heterodox	Contrivance	Controversialists

Activity Extension

After reading *All Minus One* and discussing the terms used by Mill, pose [these discussion questions](#) to help students understand the text.