

## **IDEAL STUDENTS:** **A Heterotopian Portrait**

**Ideal students  
don't need heads –  
just attractive bodies  
that are easily led**

**Ideal students  
don't say thought-provoking things –  
they just repeat as requested  
and deferentially heed**

**Ideal students  
avoid independent thought -  
mouthing desired rhetoric  
& fearing deviancy will be caught**

**Ideal students make excellent  
soldiers, factory workers, civil servants  
& faithful spouses too**

**There's simply one problem:  
behind their well-polished glasses  
& cleanly-scrubbed ears  
some of them  
are rambunctious  
& inquisitive  
& determined  
not to become dead.**

**- T Newfields**

Begun: 2006 in Tokyo, Japan \* Finished: 2018 in Yokohama, Japan





*Satoru:* So are passive students are "ideal"?

*Tim:* (shrugging his shoulders apathetically) Well, George Orwell would probably say so.

*Melissa:* By inverting this poem, the message seems clear. Ideal students are inquisitive non-conformists, right?

*Liao:* Why do we need this notion of "ideal"? Is that concept necessary? Too often our thinking gets in the way of perceiving. Why not look at others without even considering whether or not they fit some ideal standard?