

Summer Reading DE 1101

Brave New World Aldous Huxley

Define the following words, and answer the chapter questions.

Vocabulary: predestine, spasmodic, viviparous, apertures, maudlin, erotic, effusive, tactual, monogamy, promiscuous, incessant, innocuous, profound, voluptuous, hierarchy, persevere, premonition, incoherent, senility, deprecating, impunity, subversive, self-indulgence, atonement, strumpet

Chapter 1

1. Describe the setting for the opening chapter of *Brave New World*. In what city and year does this novel take place?
2. What is the motto of the World State?
3. Explain what is happening at the Hatchery and Conditioning Center.
4. Describe Bokanovsky's process.
5. What are the five castes of the World State?

Chapter 2

1. What two objects are the babies being conditioned to dislike?
2. Why does the State condition the masses to dislike the country?
3. Explain how hypnopaedia works.
4. What do the child's mind and, later, the adult's become?

Chapter 3

Note: This chapter presents a kaleidoscopic view of the State's way of life. Think of it as you would a rapid succession of TV images presented to make a single impression.

1. What is the requirement for any new games? Why?
2. Explain the State's attitude toward sex. How does the State regard marriage?

3. "Ending is better than mending." "The more stitches, the less riches." How do these sayings express the economic view of the State?

Chapter 4

1. Where do Bernard Marx and Lenina Crowe plan to visit?
2. Explain Bernard Marx's attitude toward the State.
3. What is Helmholtz Watson's job?
4. Explain Watson's feeling toward the State.

Chapter 5

Compare the recreation and social activities of the lower castes with those of the upper castes.

Chapter 6

1. Over the stormy water of the English Channel, what desire does Bernard express to Lenina?
2. List three adjectives or phrases to describe Lenina's personality.
3. The Director (Tomakin) tells Bernard of a visit he made to the New Mexico Indian Reservation twenty years ago. What unusual thing happened there?
4. Bernard learns that he is going to be deported to Iceland. Why?
5. Rephrase Lenina's saying "Was and will make me ill. I take a gramme and only am."

Chapter 7

1. List three conditions Lenina dislikes at the Reservation.
2. How are these conditions contrary to what she has been taught and conditioned?
3. What is the purpose of the whipping ceremony that Bernard and Lenina witness?

4. John (The Savage) reveals he was born on the Reservation. Who is his father and where is he now?
5. Linda describes ways in which she cannot reconcile her way of life in the Other Place with that of the Reservation. List ways that seem to trouble her most.

Chapter 8

1. Why does Linda suffer dislike and rejection on the Reservation? Why do the women especially dislike her?
2. What is mescal and how does it help Linda?
3. From what sources has John obtained his education?
4. When John was sixteen, he went with the Indian boys to a puberty ceremony. Describe what happened and how it affected John.
5. What do Bernard and John have in common?

Chapter 9

1. Explain why Bernard wishes to take John and Linda to London.
2. List three adjectives or phrases to describe John's feelings when he discovers Lenina asleep on her soma holiday.

Chapter 10

1. Name three faults that the D.H.C. finds with Bernard's behavior. How does Bernard react to the D.H.C.'s accusations?
2. What "obscenity" does Linda fling at the D.H.C. (Tomakin)?
3. How do the workers react to John's calling the D.H.C. "My father"? Why?

Chapter 11

1. What happens to the D.H.C. after the scene in the Fertilizing Room?
2. Give three reasons why no one had the smallest desire to see Linda.
3. How does Dr. Shaw justify keeping Linda on a soma-holiday even though it will shorten her life?

4. Explain Bernard's sudden increased popularity.
5. Give two reasons the Savage (John) shows little astonishment or awe at civilized inventions.
6. Describe the Savage's reaction to the sight of work being done by single Bokanovsky groups.
7. Who is Ariel?
8. In the Electrical Equipment Company, "Each process is carried out, so far as possible, by a single Bokavonsky group." Explain what this means.
9. What does the phrase "civilized infertility" mean?
10. The Savage views the factory, saying, "O brave new world that has such people in it." What are his true feelings about the people? How do you know?
11. The libraries of the World State contain only reference books. Why?
12. How is John affected by the feelies?

Chapter 12

1. Helmholtz, the propaganda writer, and John have become friends. When John reads to him from *Romeo and Juliet*, Helmholtz bursts into laughter. State three things that amuse him.
2. Helmholtz calls Shakespeare a "marvelous propaganda technician." How does he explain Shakespeare's success?

Chapter 13

1. What happens when John wants to make love to Lenina?
2. Explain the essential difference in the natures of John and Lenina.

Chapter 14

1. Explain the purpose and method of death conditioning.
2. Why does John become angry at the children?

Chapter 15

1. What does John say he will teach the mob of hospital workers?

2. Describe John's actions at the hospital.
3. How do the people react to what John does?
4. Describe the actions taken by the World State Police.

Chapter 16

1. Give three statements why Shakespeare is prohibited in the World State.
2. How does Mustapha Mond say he paid for being too much interested in truth?

Chapter 17

1. What two things does the Savage (John) say that the people have sacrificed or their happiness?
2. What third sacrifice does the Controller add?
3. Why do you think the people of the World State have no need of a god?
4. What does the Controller call "Christianity without tears"? Explain.
5. The Savage claims the "right to be unhappy." Explain this statement. Include some of the specific unhappiness that he is saying are his right.

Chapter 18

After Bernard and Helmholtz are exiled, the Savage runs away to be alone. Relate the conclusion of the novel in a good paragraph.

