

Name _____

Pd. _____

Brave New World: Chapter 1

I. Vocabulary: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel or class discussions. Also, be prepared to be quizzed on these words.

pallid: very pale

callow: young and not experienced

zealous: very enthusiastic

gamete: sexual reproductive cell, as a sperm or egg

viviparous: bringing forth living young, as mammals do. [**viv** (life) + **parer** (bring forth)]

deft: skillful

decant: to pour out of a container

caste: social class separated from others by hereditary rank or profession or wealth.

superfluous: not needed or wanted

topsy-turvy: upside-down

II. Background Info:

Henry Ford: popularized the assembly-line method of production when he produced the affordable automobile, the Model T.

Henry Ford is like a god to the people the people of this society. The calendar years are marked for after his birth: A.F.—After Ford. Also, the character Henry Foster, who is very fond of efficiency and figures, has a name that is an allusion to Henry Ford.

III. Literary Terms: these will be the terms that we use to discuss the novel. Please know them for our discussion and your tests and quizzes.

dystopian: dys (bad) + top (place). Dystopian stories have a society that to the characters in the story is a perfect place, a utopia, or at least, it was an attempt at utopia. Typically, in order to achieve utopia, the society in the story has sacrificed something too large (e.g., humanity, individuality, freedoms). Dystopian stories allow us to see an absurd result of a current tendency of our own society (e.g., our desire for equality, our reliance on technology, and so forth)

allusion: a brief reference to a person, event, or place, or to a work of art.

IV. Questions: answer the following questions while you read to check your comprehension.

1. What is the World State's motto?

2. What room does the Director of Hatcheries and Conditioning bring the students first?
3. What question didn't arise in the year A.F. 632?
4. How does the Central London Hatchery and Conditioning Centre get ovaries?
5. Why do the male gametes need to be kept at a temperature lower than blood heat?
6. What happens to the Gammas, Deltas, and the Epsilons that doesn't happen to the Alphas and Betas?
7. What happens during Bokanovsky's Process?
8. What does the DHC say is a major advantage of Bokanovsky's process?
9. About how many individuals can they get from one ovary?
10. What is the second room they enter?

Note: "Flaps of sow's peritoneum ready cut to the proper size came shooting up . . ." A sow is a female pig. *Peritoneum* is the transparent membrane that lines the abdominal cavity in mammals and covers most of the viscera.

11. What happens in the Social Predestination Room?

Note: *demijohn* means a large bottle.

12. What are the labels for females and males?
13. What is a freemartin?
14. How many females are allowed to be born fertile?
15. Who is the lowest member of society?
16. How did they assure that this group was least intelligent?
17. Why does Foster wish there were a way to shorten maturation?
18. What is the secret of happiness and virtue?
19. What is Lenina's job?
20. Give two examples of how individuals are conditioned as embryos: