

Brave New World - 10th Grade Reading Comprehension Questions

Due: Monday, May 24th, 2021. Remember to answer in complete sentences or points will be deducted.

Chapters 1-3

1. Who is the D.H.C.?
2. What is Bokanovsky's Process?
3. Explain why Bokanovsky's Process is one of the major instruments of social stability.
4. What is the point of conditioning?
5. Why are the babies being conditioned to hate books and flowers?
6. How is the conditioning reinforced?
7. What is the name of the deity in this world?
8. Why is "mother" such an obscene word?
9. How is Bernard Marx different from his associates?
10. Why does Lenina want to go out with Bernard?
11. What is soma?

The Meaning of the Word: Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. If there are words for which you cannot figure out using context clues and process of elimination, look them up in a dictionary.

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| 12. Optimum | A. as if doing one a favor |
| 13. Proliferate | B. practice of being married to only one person at a time |
| 14. Prodigious | C. impossible to overcome |
| 15. Endorse | D. most favorable point |
| 16. Indulgently | E. gave approval of or support to |
| 17. Indefatigably | F. tirelessly |
| 18. Monogamy | G. multiply rapidly |
| 19. Axiomatic | H. impressively great |
| 20. Insurmountable | I. self evident; not needing proof |

Chapters 4-6

1. How are Bernard and Helmholtz alike?
2. What is a Solidarity Service?
3. Why is Bernard unable to feel the oneness with his group?
4. How does Bernard want to spend his dates with Lenina?
5. Why does the Director threaten to send Bernard to Iceland?

The Meaning of the Word:

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| 6. annihilating | A. mournful |
| 7. Ruminating | B. harmlessly; in a beneficial way |
| 8. Contemptuous | C. not disconcerted or embarrassed; calm |
| 9. Caste | D. continual; recurring |
| 10. Chronic | E. social class |
| 11. Plaintive | F. urging with gentle and repeated appeals, teasing or flattery |
| 12. Benevolently | G. meditating; thinking |

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| 13. Cajolery | H. completely overwhelming or incapacitating |
| 14. Unabashed | I. disdainful; disgraceful; scornful |

Chapters 7-9

1. How are Linda and John different from the other savages?
2. Why is Lenina disgusted by Linda?
3. Why do the women whip Linda?
4. What things does Mitsima teach John?
5. What book does Pope bring for John?
6. Why do Bernard and John both feel alone?
7. To whom does John liken Lenina?

The Meaning of the Word:

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|-------------------|---|
| 8. Reciprocated | A. unbelievable |
| 9. Precipice | B. indulging in excessive sexual activity |
| 10. Unprecedented | C. in a condescending manner |
| 11. Inexorably | D. relentlessly |
| 12. Inconceivable | E. returned; mutually shared |
| 13. Lecherous | F. cliff |
| 14. Patronizingly | G. thing of value |
| 15. Asset | H. having never happened before |

Chapters 10-13

1. How does Bernard humiliate the Director?
2. Why is everyone interested in John but not Linda?
3. How does Linda spend her time?
4. Why does John throw up?
5. What other "civilized" customs disgust John?
6. Why does John refuse to come to the party?
7. How does John's refusal affect Bernard?
8. How does Bernard react to his downfall?

The Meaning of the Word:

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| 9. Imperceptibly | A. made to look like glass |
| 10. Ignominy | B. arousing a strong dislike or disgust |
| 11. Appalling | C. unable to be detected by the senses |
| 12. Intrinsicly | D. making oneself favorable to another |
| 13. Vitrified | E. shocking |
| 14. Subversive | F. inherently; as a part of the nature of a thing itself |
| 15. Odious | G. disgrace |
| 16. Apprehensively | H. undermining; damaging to the authorities |
| 17. Ingratiating | I. anxiously |

Chapters 14-15

1. Why are children given treats when they visit the for the Dying?

2. Why is John's reaction to his mother's death inappropriate?
3. Why does John attempt to stop the soma distribution?

The Meaning of the Word:

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|----------------|---|
| 4. Moribund | A. become unconditioned; revert to old ways |
| 5. Flaccid | B. compensation; something to make amends |
| 6. Sublime | C. undecided |
| 7. Ordure | D. about to die |
| 8. Decondition | E. bodily waste; excrement |
| 9. Irresolute | F. noble; majestic; impressive |
| 10. Reparation | G. flabby; listless |
| 11. Bestial | H. hard outer covering |
| 12. Carapace | I. like a beast; lacking reason and intellect |

Chapters 16-18

1. What happens to Bernard and Helmholtz?
2. Why does the Controller say they should be happy to be banished?
3. Why are Shakespeare and scientific research banned?
4. What does John mean when he says, "I claim them all"?
5. Why does John drink mustard water?
6. Why does John torture himself?
7. To what end does John come?

The Meaning of the Word:

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| 8. impunity | A. emitting light; enlightened |
| 9. Parenthetically | B. filled with air |
| 10. Gesticulating | C. exemption from punishment |
| 11. Postulates | D. regret; remorse |
| 12. Luminous | E. bodily movement particularly for emphasis |
| 13. Flagrantly | F. in a big way; obviously; conspicuously |
| 14. Pneumatic | G. as if in parenthesis; aside |
| 15. Compunction | H. things take for granted without proof necessary |