**AP English Lit & Comp**

***Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley**

**Study Guide – Part 1**

**The novel’s title comes from the following Shakespeare quote:**

[*The Tempest Act 5, scene 1, 181–184*](http://www.enotes.com/tempest-text/act-v-scene-i?start=2#tem-5-1-207)

Exiled from Milan, the former duke Prospero and his admirable fifteen-year-old daughter Miranda have been stranded for twelve years on an uncharted isle in the Mediterranean. Miranda's entire experience of mankind has, until very recently, encompassed only her bitter old dad and his deformed slave, Caliban.

**Miranda:**  
O wonder!  
How many goodly creatures are there here!  
How beauteous mankind is! O brave new world  
That has such people in't!

**Prospero:**  
'Tis new to thee.

Identify and describe the major characters. Many are listed here, but you should add to this list as new characters are introduced. Discuss your impression of these characters. Your discussion and description should include adjectives with textual evidence- either direct quotes or paraphrasing is acceptable. Include page number citation for direct quotes.

**Director of Hatcheries and Conditioning (D.H.C.)/Thomas-**

**Henry Foster**

**Lenina Crowne**

**Mustapha Mond**

**Bernard Marx**

**Fanny Crowne**

**Benito Hoover**

**Helmholtz Watson**

**Linda**

## DIRECTIONS: Be prepared to answer/discuss the following questions for each chapter in the novel. You should always support your answers with evidence from the text. These questions will also be used for short reading quizzes throughout the unit study of this novel.

## Chapter 1:

1. Why is the first sentence strange? What does it set up?  
2. What is the meaning of the World State’s motto “COMMUNITY, IDENTITY, STABILITY?”  
3. Why does the fertilizing room look so cold, when it ia actually hot inside? What goes on there?  
4. Why do particulars “make for virtue and happiness,” while generalities “are intellectually necessary evils?”  
5. How do people know who they are in this society?  
6. Why use the Bokanovsky process at all? How is it an instrument “of social stability?”  
7. Why don’t the Epsilons “need human intelligence?”

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## Chapter 2

1. What work does the conditioning do? Who gets conditioned? How does hypnopaedia work?  
2. Why condition the Deltas to hate nature but love outdoor sports?  
3. How does time work in this book? History? Why does Ford say “History is Bunk?”  
4. What are the various castes like, and why?  
5. How do the students demonstrate their own conditioning?

## Chapter 3

1. How do the children play together? What is childhood like?  
2. How is our world depicted? How do we get from here to there?  
3. Why must games be so complex in this society?  
4. Why are strong emotions dangerous? Family relationships? Romance? Religion? Art? Culture?  
5. How is sexuality used in this novel? Do you see any problems with it?  
6. What does Mustapha Mond do? What is his relationship to history?  
7. Is there anything unusual about Lenina Crowne? Bernard Marx? What? Why?  
8. How does Huxley use the cinematic technique toward the end of this chapter?  
9. What is soma? What are its uses?  
10. How do people age in this society?

## Chapter 4

1. What is life like for the Epsilon-Minus Semi-Moron who runs the elevator?  
2. How do the other Alphas relate to Bernard?  
3. What does Lenina do on her date?  
4. What does she think of the lower castes?  
5. Why is Bernard the way he is? What does he really want?  
6. Why is Helmholtz the way he is? What does he want? How is he different from Bernard?

## Chapter 5

1. What do Lenina and Henry talk about on their way home? What happens at the crematorium?  
2. Why are stars depressing?  
3. What are the solidarity services like? What role do they play? How does Bernard fit?

## Chapter 6

1. Why is being alone a bad thing?  
2. What do Lenina and Bernard do on their first date? Why is the ocean important? The moon?  
3. What does Bernard say about freedom? What does he mean?  
4. How does the date end?  
5. What does it mean to be infantile in this society?  
6. How does the director feel about Bernard? Why is he warning him?  
7. What does his story mean? What does it show us about him?  
8. How does Helmholtz feel about Bernard after he hears the story of the meeting with the director?  
9. What do we learn from the Warden? What are the reservations like?  
10. What does the word Malpais mean?

**Explain/”define” each of the following terms:**

* Decant
* Epsilon
* Soma
* Shakespeare
* M---------- (significance of the dashes?)
* Hypnopaedia
* Bokanovsky’s process