

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Harrison Bergeron” Questions**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which sentence best states the main theme of Kurt Vonnegut’s “Harrison Bergeron”?
- a) Everyone should be made equal, so competition is eliminated.
  - b) In a society where everyone is equal, people lose their individual differences.
  - c) People should rebel against authority in future societies.
  - d) Making everyone average will improve society as a whole.
2. In your own words, write a summary of the handicaps placed on people in the story. Include three specific handicaps and why their functions.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3. Based on Harrison’s handicaps, what can you infer about Harrison? Include two specific details from the text in your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which would likely be a **hindrance** to doing your homework?

- a) a sturdy desk
- b) reference books
- c) loud noise
- d) a quiet location

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. In this story, Harrison Bergeron becomes a symbol for the spirit of:

- a) conformity.
- b) family values.
- c) servitude.
- d) independence.

6. What are two similarities between Harrison Bergeron and George? Include information from the text in your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

What are two differences between Harrison Bergeron and Hazel? Include information from the text in your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

7. Identify two different handicaps that are used on characters in the story. For each handicap explain what caused them to be necessary.

---

---

---

---

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which of the following is **not** a reason that the author has Hazel repeat herself?
- a) to show that if people give up too many freedoms, those freedoms may never return
  - b) to explain that nothing has changed from the beginning of the story to the end
  - c) to persuade the reader to protect his/her freedoms from those who wish to have absolute control
  - d) to reveal Hazel's use of humor to cope with a tragic a tragic event
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The story's first sentence states that "The year was 2081, and everybody was finally equal." What is wrong with this statement?
- a) The handicaps don't work on George.
  - b) The H-G men and Diana Moon Glampers don't have handicaps.
  - c) Hazel does not need handicaps.
  - d) There is nothing wrong with the statement.

10. Science fiction and fantasy writers often use present-day trends as a basis for their stories. What do you think was the inspiration for Vonnegut's 1961 story? Include two specific details from the text to support your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

In what ways does Vonnegut's society of 2081 resemble today's society? Include two specific details from the text to support your answer.

---

---

---

---

---