

Brave New World

Chapters 10–12

by Aldous Huxley

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: heinous, heretical, ignominy, languished, magnanimity, malice, obscenity, subversive, unorthodoxy, veneer

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz (use after reading, or skip):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–3 · A tour of the Hatchery

Section 2 · Chapters 4–6 · Bernard, Helmholtz, and Lenina in London

Section 3 · Chapters 7–9 · Arrival at the Savage Reservation

Section 4 · Chapters 10–12 · The Savage in the World State

Section 5 · Chapters 13–15 · Lenina's feelings for the Savage

Section 6 · Chapters 16–18 · John meets the World Controller

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1. The jury was sickened by such a **heinous** crime.

- A. hastily done
- B. cleverly hidden
- C. shockingly evil

2. The council condemned his **heretical** opinions at once.

- A. carelessly thrown together
- B. against accepted belief
- C. lacking any real proof

3. He could not bear the **ignominy** of losing so badly.

- A. deep regret
- B. public disgrace
- C. sheer exhaustion

4. The forgotten plant **languished** in the dark closet.

- A. wasted away
- B. leaned over
- C. sat untouched

5. The champion treated his beaten rivals with **magnanimity**.

- A. noble generosity
- B. guarded politeness
- C. smug satisfaction

6. There was real **malice** in the way she slammed the door.

- A. desire to harm
- B. wild panic
- C. stubborn pride

7. He shouted an **obscenity** when he stubbed his toe.

- A. sudden apology
- B. offensive word
- C. loud complaint

8. The general feared the soldiers' **subversive** whispers.

- A. spreading idle gossip
- B. pleading for mercy
- C. undermining authority

9. Her **unorthodoxy** raised eyebrows at the strict old firm.

- A. nonconformity
- B. ambition
- C. rudeness

10. His polished **veneer** fooled almost everyone at first.

- A. easygoing charm
- B. quiet confidence
- C. false outer show

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

freemartin — in the World State, a sterilized woman; the term is borrowed from farming, where it means a sterile female calf

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	B
4	A
5	A
6	A
7	B
8	C
9	A
10	C

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “... the foetuses grew and grew or, poisoned, languished into a stunted Epsilonhood.”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘languished’ most nearly suggests that the poisoned foetuses...

- A. matured into a higher caste
- B. wasted away into stunted forms
- C. were destroyed before birth

2 “Consider the matter dispassionately, Mr. Foster, and you will see that no offence is so heinous as unorthodoxy of behaviour.”

It can reasonably be inferred that, in the Director’s view, unorthodoxy is...

- A. an honest error in judgment
- B. a punishable but minor fault
- C. the most wicked offence of all

3 “Murder kills only the individual—and, after all, what is an individual? ... Unorthodoxy threatens more than the life of a mere individual; it strikes at Society itself.”

The information in the excerpt primarily functions to...

- A. show why dissent endangers society
- B. defend the worth of the individual
- C. condemn murder as the worst crime

4 “A veneer of jaunty self-confidence thinly concealed his nervousness.”

In the passage, Bernard is characterized as...

- A. openly panicked and trembling
- B. genuinely bold and untroubled
- C. nervous behind a forced confidence

5 “By his heretical views on sport and soma, by the scandalous unorthodoxy of his sex-life, by his refusal to obey the teachings of Our Ford ...”

Which statement about Bernard’s views is best supported by the passage?

- A. They defy official State doctrine.
- B. They win his colleagues’ admiration.
- C. They involve only his private life.

6 “For this reason I propose to dismiss him, to dismiss him with ignominy from the post he has held in this Centre ...”

According to the passage, the Director means Bernard’s dismissal to be...

- A. a brief, temporary suspension
- B. a quiet, private removal
- C. a public disgrace and humiliation

7 “She flung the obscenity like a challenge into the outraged silence ...”

The passage most strongly suggests that those present receive Linda’s revelation as...

- A. a welcome piece of news
- B. a shocking, scandalous outburst
- C. a harmless misunderstanding

8 “O brave new world ...” By some malice of his memory the Savage found himself repeating Miranda’s words. “O brave new world that has such people in it.”

The ironic phrase ‘malice of his memory’ implies that, for the Savage, recalling Miranda’s words is...

- A. a comforting, hopeful thought
- B. a cruel, mocking reminder
- C. a source of genuine wonder

9 “The author’s mathematical treatment of the conception of purpose is novel and highly ingenious, but heretical and, so far as the present social order is concerned, dangerous and potentially subversive.”

Mustapha Mond most likely labels the paper ‘potentially subversive’ in order to...

- A. justify suppressing a threatening idea
- B. recommend it for publication
- C. praise the author’s originality

10 “Touched, Bernard felt himself at the same time humiliated by this magnanimity ...”

Which choice best describes how Helmholtz treats Bernard in this passage?

- A. with generous forgiveness
- B. with cold resentment
- C. with smug, calculated pity

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	
3	A	
4	C	
5	A	
6	C	Event comprehension.
7	B	Event comprehension.
8	B	Theme comprehension. 'O brave new world' echoes Miranda's wonder in The Tempest, turned bitter here by the rows of identical workers.
9	A	
10	A	Character comprehension.

Teacher Context: Chapters 10–12

Back in London, Bernard produces Linda and John at the Director's planned humiliation of him, exposing the Director and forcing his resignation. John becomes a social sensation and Bernard briefly rises on the connection, while Linda retreats into soma. Bernard's showcase party collapses when John refuses to appear.