

Text Dependent Questions for Harrison Bergeron

Text-dependent Questions	Evidence-based Answers
1. Citing examples from the text, what can you infer about the type of government that was in existence in the year 2081?	
2. What are some human qualities the author highlights as characteristics that would give one person an “unfair advantage” over someone else? What did the U.S. Handicapper General do to counter these traits in order to establish equality amongst all? Cite specific examples from the text.	
3. In the first paragraph, Vonnegut uses the words “unceasing vigilance.” What do these words mean? What implications do they have in the text?	
4. Indirect characterization is when an author develops the character through his actions, dialogues, thoughts, appearance, other character reactions. How does Vonnegut use indirect characterization to create sympathy for George and Hazel? Use textual support.	

5. George Bergeron wears a radio that broadcasts various noises to prohibit him from developing any intellectual thoughts. Trace the increase intensity of these noises that George hears throughout the story.	
6. How does Harrison's rebellion reveal his character and his values? Support your opinion with evidence from the text.	
7. Identify some figurative language in the description of the scene with Harrison and the dancing Ballerina. How does the language affect the tone of the piece, and what does it reveal about what Vonnegut values?	
8. The entire narrative takes place as George and Hazel sit in front of the television. What is Vonnegut's purpose in having the television set as the primary setting? Cite textual evidence for the significance of the television.	
9. Write an objective summary of the short story, "Harrison Bergeron." What message(s) does Vonnegut want the reader to take away from the story?	

Name: _____

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