

Brave New World Essential Questions

Essential questions frame the intellectual work of an entire unit rather than a single lesson. They address concepts that extend beyond the text — questions that connect literature to life, to other disciplines, and to the kinds of arguments human beings keep having across centuries. Essential questions resist simple answers. Unlike discussion questions, they do not anchor to specific scenes or chapters. They sit above the reading and give an ongoing conceptual frame of reference.

The essential questions below address the arguments of *Brave New World* at that level.

1. How much should the individual sacrifice for the benefit of society?
2. How can we defend our minds from unwelcome influence?
3. Does struggle have value? Can suffering make life more meaningful?
4. Should scientific and sociological progress face external limits?
5. What role does isolation play in personal development?
6. Is it acceptable to trade individuality and liberty for safety and contentment?
7. Who controls the truth — and what happens when those in power decide what counts as knowledge?
8. What does it mean to live an authentic life?
9. How dangerous is consumerism?
10. What does genuine social equality look like, and can any society actually achieve it?