**Class Schedule**

1. Vocab Bingo! (15 mins)
2. Opening Activity (10 mins)
3. Read extract (10 mins)
4. Comprehension questions (15 mins)
5. Read through new vocab (10 mins)

**Vocab Bingo!**

* Follow the link in the chat to access your bingo card! First person to fill in a line wins!

**Opening Activity**

1. Abyss
2. Nefarious
3. Languid

1. Pale
2. Flag (verb)
3. Alternate
4. Sporadic
5. Yearn
6. Shrill
7. Proficient
8. High pitched and piercing
9. A deep or seemingly bottomless chasm
10. Competent or skilled in doing or using something
11. Occur in turn repeatedly
12. Wicked or criminal
13. Light in colour or shade
14. Occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places
15. Relaxed and peaceful; not inclined to make physical effort
16. Having an intense feeling of longing for something
17. To mark something for attention/sign to a vehicle or driver to stop

**Brave New World by Aldous Huxley: Eton King’s Scholarship 2018**

Chapter One

A **squat** grey building of only thirty-four stories. Over the main entrance the words, CENTRAL LONDON **HATCHERY** AND CONDITIONING CENTRE, and, in a shield, the World State's motto, COMMUNITY, IDENTITY, STABILITY.

The enormous room on the ground floor faced towards the north. Cold for all the summer beyond the panes, for all the tropical heat of the room itself, a harsh thin light glared through the windows, hungrily seeking some draped **lay** figure, some **pallid** shape of academic goose-flesh, but finding only the glass and nickel and bleakly shining porcelain of a laboratory. Wintriness responded to wintriness. The **overalls** of the workers were white, their hands gloved with a pale corpse-coloured rubber. The light was frozen, dead, a ghost. Only from the yellow barrels of the microscopes did it borrow a certain rich and living substance, lying along the polished tubes like butter, streak after **luscious** streak in long **recession** down the work tables.

"And this," said the Director opening the door, "is the **Fertilizing** Room."

Bent over their instruments, three hundred Fertilizers were plunged, as the Director of Hatcheries and Conditioning entered the room, in the scarcely breathing silence, the **absentminded**, **soliloquizing** hum or whistle, of absorbed concentration. A troop of newly arrived students, very young, pink and **callow**, followed nervously, rather **abjectly**, at the Director's heels. Each of them carried a notebook, in which, whenever the great man spoke, he desperately scribbled. Straight from the horse's mouth. It was a rare privilege. The D. H. C. for Central London always made a point of personally **conducting** his new students round the various departments.

"Just to give you a general idea," he would explain to them. For of course some sort of general idea they must have, if they were to do their work intelligently–though as little of one, if they were to be good and happy members of society, as possible. For particulars, as every one knows, make for virtue and happiness; **generalities** are **intellectually** necessary evils. Not philosophers but fret-sawyers and stamp collectors compose the backbone of society.

"To-morrow," he would add, smiling at them with a slightly menacing **geniality**, "you'll be settling down to serious work. You won't have time for generalities. Meanwhile …"

Meanwhile, it was a **privilege**. Straight from the horse's mouth into the notebook. The boys scribbled like mad.

Tall and rather thin but upright, the Director advanced into the room. He had a long chin and big rather **prominent** teeth, just covered, when he was not talking, by his full, **floridly** curved lips. Old, young? Thirty? Fifty? Fifty-five? It was hard to say. And anyhow the question didn't arise; in this year of stability, A. F. 632, it didn't occur to you to ask it.

"I shall begin at the beginning," said the D.H.C. and the more **zealous** students recorded his intention in their notebooks: Begin at the beginning. "These," he waved his hand, "are the **incubators**." And opening an **insulated** door he showed them racks upon racks of numbered test tubes. "The week's supply of **ova**. Kept," he explained, "at blood heat; whereas the male **gametes**," and here he opened another door, "they have to be kept at thirty-five instead of thirty-seven. Full blood heat sterilizes." Rams wrapped in theremogene beget no lambs.

Still leaning against the incubators he gave them, while the pencils **scurried** **illegibly** across the pages, a brief description of the modern fertilizing process; spoke first, of course, of its surgical introduction–"the operation undergone voluntarily for the good of Society, not to mention the fact that it carries a bonus amounting to six months' salary"; continued with some account of the technique for preserving the **excised** **ovary** alive and actively developing; passed on to a consideration of **optimum** temperature, **salinity**, **viscosity**; referred to the liquor in which the detached and ripened eggs were kept; and, leading his charges to the work tables, actually showed them how this liquor was drawn off from the test-tubes; how it was let out drop by drop onto the specially warmed slides of the microscopes; how the eggs which it contained were inspected for **abnormalities**, counted and transferred to a **porous** **receptacle**; how (and he now took them to watch the operation) this receptacle was **immersed** in a warm **bouillon** containing free-swimming **spermatozoa**–at a minimum concentration of one hundred thousand per cubic centimetre, he insisted; and how, after ten minutes, the container was lifted out of the liquor and its contents reexamined; how, if any of the eggs remained unfertilized, it was again immersed, and, if necessary, yet again; how the fertilized ova went back to the incubators; where the Alphas and Betas remained until definitely bottled; while the Gammas, Deltas and Epsilons were brought out again, after only thirty-six hours, to undergo Bokanovsky's Process.

"Bokanovsky's Process," repeated the Director, and the students underlined the words in their little notebooks.

One egg, one **embryo**, one adult-normality. But a bokanovskified egg will bud, will **proliferate**, will divide. From eight to ninety-six buds, and every bud will grow into a perfectly formed embryo, and every embryo into a full-sized adult. Making ninety-six human beings grow where only one grew before. Progress. […]

But one of the students was fool enough to ask where the advantage lay.

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Summarise the chapter in two sentences.
2. Explain what is happening in the Hatchery and Conditioning Centre.
3. Explain how Huxley uses imagery to establish setting and mood. Cite specific examples that you find particularly effective in your response
4. The World State’s motto suggests that community, identity, and stability are the most important qualities in their society. What do you believe are the three most important values for a society?
5. How does the weather help set the scene in this passage?
6. What features does the author use to achieve the tone of the extract?

**Vocabulary**

* *Define each word, put it into one of four categories (noun, adjective, verb or adverb) and, where applicable, note down a synonym or antonym.*

1. Squat – short and thickset’ disproportionately broad or wide
2. Hatchery -
3. Lay – not having professional qualifications or expert knowledge
4. Pallid – pale, typically because of poor health
5. Overalls – loose-fitting one-piece garment worn for protection against dirt
6. Luscious – having a pleasantly rich, sweet taste
7. Recession – a period of temporary economic decline
8. Fertilize -
9. Absentminded – having or showing a forgetful or inattentive disposition
10. Soliloquise – speak one’s thoughts aloud when by oneself
11. Callow – inexperienced and immature
12. Abject – extremely unpleasant and degrading
13. Conduct – organize and carry out
14. Generality – a statement or principle having general rather than specific validity or force
15. Intellectual
16. Geniality – the quality of having a friendly and cheerful manner
17. Privilege – a special right, advantage, or immunity granted or available only to a particular person or group
18. Prominent – important or famous
19. Florid – having a red or flushed complexion
20. Zealous – having or showing great enthusiasm or energy
21. Incubator an enclosed apparatus in which premature or unusually small babies are placed and which provides a controlled and protective environment for their care.
22. Insulator – a substance which does not readily allow the passage of heat or sound
23. Ova – female reproductive cell
24. Scurry – move hurriedly with short quick steps
25. Illegible – not clear enough to be read
26. Excised – having been cut out surgically
27. Ovary – female reproductive organ
28. Optimum
29. Salinity – the quality or degree of being salty
30. Viscosity – the state of being thick, sticky and semi-fluid in consistency
31. Abnormalities
32. Porous
33. Receptacle – a hollow object used to contain something
34. Immersed – dip or submerge in a liquid
35. Bouillon – thin soup or stock made by stewing meat, fish or vegetables
36. Embryo – an unborn or unhatched offspring
37. Proliferate – increase rapidly in number

**Homework**

* Revise the vocabulary we have learned today.
* Imagine that you are living in the Brave New World. Write a description of a day in the life.