

Dystopia – World Notes

It's not all it's cracked up to be.

What is a dystopia?

- An imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad, typically a totalitarian or environmentally degraded one.

Or...

- A state of existence or government that is inherently flawed and degrading towards the individual. This is most often achieved through the restriction of rights or beliefs to certain “perfect” ideals, as mandated by another.

2081

- This is a 2010 short film based on our reading of Harrison Bergeron.



How to define a dystopian world

1. A Dystopian world has limitations and restrictions seemingly unfair or absurd to our own. This can include disregarding of basic common sense, social norms, or even science.
2. A Dystopian world disregards a certain aspect of humanity. This can be an entire race or idea of people, or even something as simple as an idea or feeling.
3. Dystopian worlds have logically explained the limitations placed upon them for the sake of the narrative.

Dystopian Worlds – Cont'd

4. A Dystopian world is often ruled over or overseen by an entity that is seemingly mysterious, harsh, or overall unknowable in its early state.
5. A Dystopian world will often attack or neglect a person or group of persons of a certain status or quality. This is often related to rule 2.
6. A Dystopian world is unquestionably sound (a utopia) to its occupants up until their world is brought into question by a person or persons of rule 5.

Remember Bergeron

- We will be referring back to this text and video regularly, so keep it close.
- Also, be ready to compare it to our own upcoming novel.



Discuss and respond – World

- As far as you've read and understand, how does Fahrenheit 451 follow the rules of Dystopian Literature? Does it lack in certain areas? Make sure to compare to the notes from earlier. Use the specific rules.
- Do a ½ page personal response on this topic. Due by the end of class.
- I will be joining groups at random to see how discussion develops.
- On Utah Compose