

1. In Chapter 4, Lenina rides up to the roof in an elevator operated by a monkey-like “Epsilon Minus Semi-Moron,” who lives in a “dark annihilating stupor” (59). In the World State, humans are bred to fit into castes ranging from Alpha Plus to Epsilon Minus. Each individual is bred to have the appropriate amount of intelligence for the job to which he or she will be assigned and then is conditioned to be happy doing that job. Although Alpha Plus Bernard Marx seems to be a little too bright to be completely satisfied with his job, the elevator operator appears to be happy with his existence. Is this caste system with its careful breeding and conditioning superior to the somewhat random way that people are educated and employed in our society?