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Now read through the writing task...

Writing Task 3: Gender Equality

Core Question: Are men and women equal in *Brave New World*?

There are no housewives in *Brave New World*. None of the traditional roles of women are represented. Marriage has been abolished. Child rearing is done by professionals conditioned for the job. Cooking is never mentioned. In fact, food is rarely mentioned, and no one is described eating a meal. Food preparation does not seem to be an issue. Cleaning house is not either. When John offers to sweep the floor for Lenina, she says, "But there *are* vacuum cleaners . . . and Epsilon Semi-Morons to work them."

Because housewives do not exist in the *Brave New World* society and because the society is founded on rational scientific principles, there would seem to be no reason men and women could not finally be equal. But are they? If the traditional roles of men and women have been abolished in the World State, what evidence do we have that leads us to think there may or may not be equality? What is the essential difference of men and women in the World State, and do these differences reinforce gender roles as we know them?

In responding to this question, look through your reading notes for examples of the role of women in the society of *Brave New World*. Then write an essay discussing what the gender roles are in *Brave New World* and whether or not they make sense in the context of that society.

Follow the directions for answering the Core Question

Core Question: Are men and women equal in *Brave New World*?

In your group, discuss the core question of the assigned writing prompt. Each member of the group should then take on the persona of either a character in the novel or another person you know. What would that person say or argue about the core question? For example,

Answer at least **three** of the following:

- What would Mustapha Mond say?
 - What would Lenina Crowne say?
 - What would Fanny Crowne say?
 - What would Bernard Marx say?
 - What would Helmholtz Watson say?
 - What would the Director of Hatcheries say?
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Answer at least **two** of the following:

- What would your teacher say?
 - What would the football coach say?
 - What would your favorite movie character say?
 - What would _____ say?
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Must answer:

- Then, at the end of the discussion, “What do YOU say?”