

Miller Timber Creek
AP3
100 points

Name _____
Date _____ Period _____

Unlocking the Psyche of a Monster: A Look at *Grendel* & *Brave New World*

By reading John Gardener's *Grendel*, one discovers an intimate portrait of a monster. While he is self-deprecating at times, Grendel reveals his truly humanistic view of an otherwise barbaric and dark age that is the youthful stage of European society. Aldous Huxley introduces us to a "Brave New World" that is fast-paced, definitive in its beliefs, and unaware of the problematic philosophy by which it lives. John Savage finds out, unfortunately, that not everyone can function in this setting.

Upon finishing these works, one must gather his/her emotional experiences with the novels and organize them into an informed opinion before he/she can truly evaluate the literature. It is here that the journey through English AP3 begins...

Your task is to read the novels, *Grendel*, by John Gardner and *Brave New World*, by Aldous Huxley. After reading and analyzing the texts, respond to this prompt in a **three page paper**.

It has been said that Gardener used this ancient tale of Grendel to tell a very modern story about the nature of evil and the quest for meaningful life in the 20th century. Huxley sought the same purpose with his novel; however, his setting forces John Savage to examine his placement in an all-too contemporary world. **Examine how each character defines and relates to his respective society.**

Use these questions as *guides* to help you in your writing:

- What does each main character represent for the society in which he lives?
- How is society viewed by the main character?
- Which other characters are archetypal of society?
- Which other characters, other than the main characters, go against the ways their societies function?

Your requirements for this assignment include:

- It should be an analytical view of the books and the major characters and themes associated with the books, while responding to the prompt at hand.
- Your paper needs to be three pages, typed and double-spaced.
- Your findings should be supported **by frequent examples of the texts—with page numbers**.
- Please provide an MLA formatted works cited page that includes the novel and any websites / references consulted or cited. See an MLA book or website for assistance.

**Your paper is due the first day of school—
NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**