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Brave new world
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BRAVE NEW WORLD



ALDOUS HUXLEY

Brave New World & Sustainable Development goals

- Topic:** *Brave New World* and its connection to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).
- Technology & Control:** Industrialization and technology control society instead of empowering people.
- Education & SDG 4:** Individuals are conditioned to fit a rigid society, suppressing freedom, creativity, and critical thinking.
- Innovation & SDG 9:** Technology is used for manipulation rather than ethical and sustainable progress.
- Conclusion:** Examining these themes helps us understand the impact of education, technology, and industrialization in both fiction and reality.

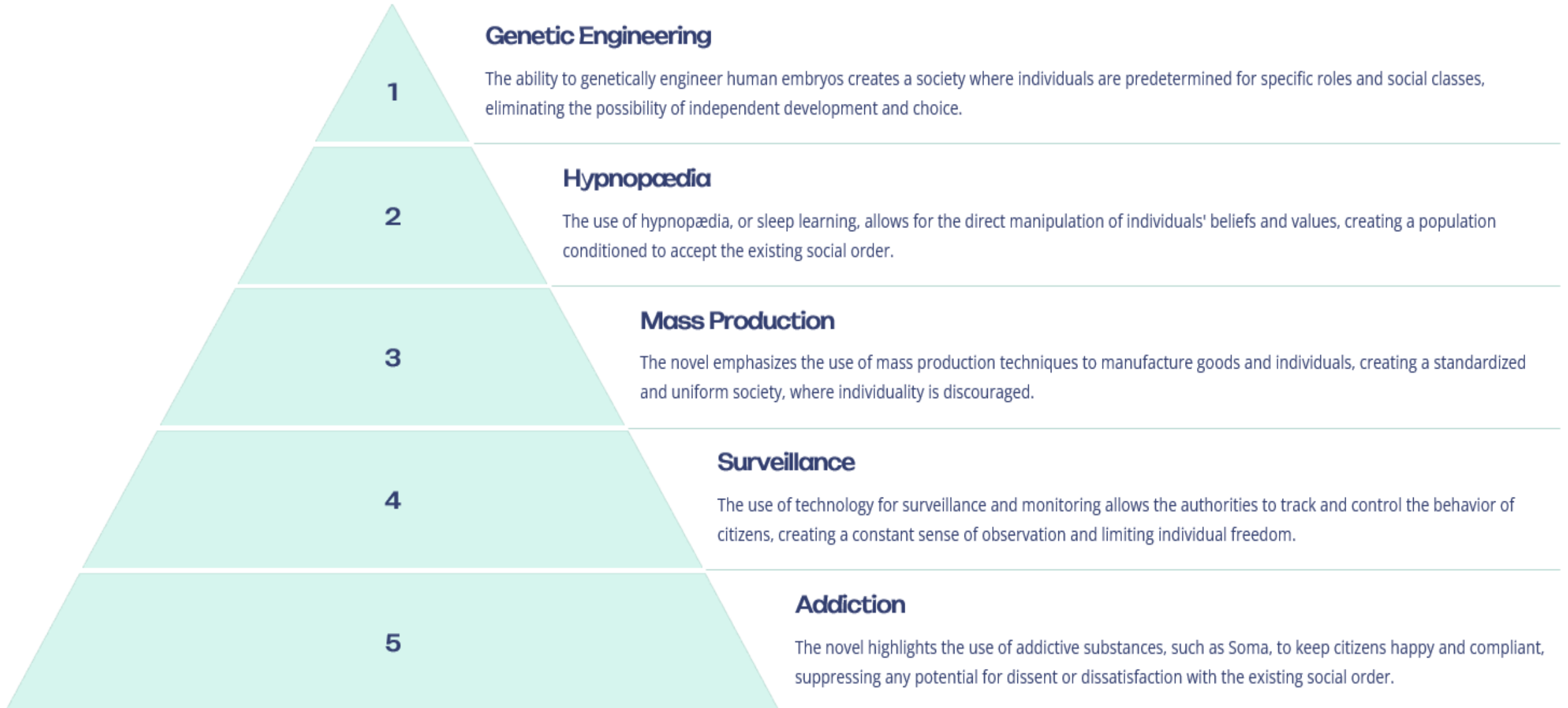
Introduction to Brave New World

Background	Author's Intent
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Published: 1932Theme: Stability through technology and social engineeringCost: Loss of freedom and human connectionContext: Rise of fascism, communism, and concerns about technology	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Huxley's Vision: A society valuing comfort over individuality and critical thinking.Warning: Dangers of unchecked technological progress and loss of human values.Critique: Mass consumerism, authoritarian control disguised as stability.Purpose: Highlight how technology, science, and politics can manipulate society.

Themes and Social Commentary

- Technology & Control:** Used to limit freedom, not enhance it—genetic engineering, mass production, and conditioning reduce individuality.
- Conformity vs. Individuality:** Stability is prioritized over self-expression; dissenters are seen as threats.
- Illusion of Happiness:** Artificial joy through consumption and *soma* masks true fulfillment.
- Social Conditioning:** Individuals are manipulated from birth to accept their roles without question.
- Loss of Critical Thinking:** Education suppresses independent thought, ensuring obedience.
- Dehumanization:** People are treated as products, valued for efficiency rather than humanity.
- Warning Against Complacency:** Huxley cautions against blindly accepting comfort at the cost of freedom.

Technological Advancements for Control



Genetic Engineering

Artificial Reproduction (Bokanovsky Process)

No Natural Births: In the World State, the concept of birth is considered primitive and outdated. Human beings are no longer conceived through natural means, and the traditional family structure does not exist. Instead, human embryos are created in **Hatcheries**, where artificial reproduction takes place.

Bokanovsky Process: This is a method used to mass-produce human beings by splitting a single fertilized egg into multiple identical embryos. This process is designed to create large numbers of people who share the same genetic makeup.

Social Stratification and Caste System

Caste Engineering: The World State uses genetic engineering to divide society into rigid **caste groups**. These castes range from the **Alphas** at the top (the intellectual and social elite) to the **Epsilons** at the bottom (those relegated to manual labor and menial tasks). Each caste is genetically engineered to have certain physical and intellectual characteristics suited to the role it is designed to fulfill,

Alphas: The highest caste, superior intelligence, physical abilities, leadership qualities.

Betas: Slightly less intelligent than Alphas but still capable of functioning in managerial and technical roles.

Gammas, Deltas, and Epsilons: These lower castes are intentionally created with lower intelligence, making them suited for more menial, repetitive, and unskilled labor.

Conditioning and Pre-Determination

Genetic engineering is paired with psychological conditioning to ensure conformity. While **genetic engineering determines an individual's physical and intellectual potential, conditioning during childhood reinforces acceptance of their societal role.** The combination of biology and psychology creates a society in which rebellion or dissatisfaction is nearly impossible

Ethical Implications

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Hypnopedia

Mechanism of Hypnopedia: Hypnopedia involves playing repeated phrases or slogans to children while they sleep. These phrases are carefully crafted to reinforce the values of the World **State**. The process starts at an early age and continues throughout childhood, ensuring the messages become deeply ingrained in the subconscious. Unlike traditional education, hypnopedia is not about critical thinking or understanding. Instead, it aims to create automatic, unthinking acceptance of societal norms.

Purpose of Hypnopedia : .

- Caste Conditioning:** Each caste (Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, Epsilon) is conditioned to feel content.
- Consumerism Reinforcement:** Slogans like "Ending is better than mending" encourage constant consumption.
- Discourages Individual Thought:** Prevents critical thinking and promotes collective conformity.
- Prevents Rebellion:** Ensures citizens do not question the social order.
- Limitations:**
 - Effective for moral and social conditioning but not for intellectual skills.
 - Cannot teach problem-solving or complex subjects.
 - Relies on passive acceptance rather than rational understanding.

Industry and Innovation

1. Hatcheries:

- **Hatcheries & Control:** The World State uses industrial reproduction to maintain societal order.
- **Bokanovsky Process:** A single egg splits into multiple identical embryos, creating mass-produced individuals.
- **Caste System:** Designed to fit roles from intelligent Alphas to subservient Epsilons.
- **Symbolism:** Critique of industrialization—human life treated as a manufactured product.
- **Impact:** Ensures conformity and stability but eliminates individuality and freedom.

2. Soma distribution:

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- **Soma Distribution:** A state-sanctioned drug used to maintain social order and keep citizens content.
- **Instant Escape:** Eliminates stress, pain, and dissatisfaction, preventing deep emotional or intellectual engagement.
- **Enforced Happiness:** Freely distributed to ensure people remain docile and avoid questioning the system.
- **Prevention of Rebellion:** Dulls emotions and critical thinking, suppressing any potential resistance.
- **Symbolism:** Critiques a society that prioritizes consumerism and superficial pleasure over genuine human experience.

3. Conditioning Centre:

- Conditioning Centres:** Facilities where individuals are psychologically conditioned to fit predetermined roles.
- Early Indoctrination:** From a young age, citizens undergo strict training to accept the caste system without question.
- Hypnopaedia (Sleep-Teaching):** Repeated moral and social messages reinforce conformity, consumerism, and social harmony.
- Behavioral Conditioning:** Classical and operant conditioning shape behavior—infants associate discomfort with undesired actions.
- Purpose:** Ensures societal stability by eliminating individuality and enforcing compliance.

4. Consumerism: .

- Consumerism as Control:** The World State promotes constant consumption to maintain social stability and economic growth.
- Conditioning:** Citizens are trained from a young age to equate happiness with material goods and entertainment.
- Endless Distractions:** People are kept busy with sports, games, and drugs, preventing deep thinking or rebellion.
- State Motto:** "Community, Identity, Stability" revolves around consumerism, ensuring people avoid dissatisfaction.
- Avoidance of Meaning:** Society discourages seeking deeper fulfillment, keeping individuals focused on pleasure.



Brave New World & SDG 4: Quality Education

Access

- Education is available to everyone, but not to empower individuals.
- It is used to control people and keep them in their assigned social roles.
- Lower castes get basic, less stimulating education, while higher castes receive more intellectual training.

Content

- Education focuses on social control, not intellectual growth.
- Hypnopaedia (sleep-learning) is used to brainwash people into obedience.
- It promotes conformity, consumerism, and rejection of individuality.
- No focus on critical thinking, creativity, or independent thought.
- The goal is to prevent people from questioning authority or seeking knowledge

Outcome

- Limited Individual Growth: People are trained to accept their caste roles with no chance for advancement.
- Social Conformity: Society is stable but at the cost of individuality.
- Loss of Human Potential: No encouragement for intellectual or personal growth.
- Citizens are discouraged from seeking deeper knowledge or challenging norms

Subversion of True Education

Indoctrination

- Individuals are taught to prioritize consumption, avoid emotional depth, and reject anything that disrupts their conditioned happiness.
- The system ensures that citizens never question authority or the societal structure

Absence of Critical Thinking

- Science, literature, and philosophy are suppressed to prevent destabilizing ideas
- Mustapha Mond, a World Controller, explicitly acknowledges that intellectual freedom and happiness are incompatible with the goals of the World State.
- Emotional depth and personal exploration are replaced by shallow, state-approved distractions

Education as a Tool of Control

- In Brave New World*, education is not a path to empowerment but a mechanism of social control:
- By shaping individuals' values and desires, the World State eliminates the need for force or coercion.
 - Education becomes a form of indoctrination that ensures citizens are both obedient and superficially happy.

Soma Distribution / Sexual Play

1. Soma numbs pain: Soma is a drug used to block emotional and physical pain, helping people escape negative feelings.
2. Sex is just a distraction: Sexual activity is used for distraction, not emotional closeness or love.
3. World State's goal: The society wants to eliminate discomfort to keep everything stable and predictable.
4. Loss of individuality: In the quest for comfort, people lose their individuality and self-awareness.
5. Message of the book: Avoiding pain may seem good, but it takes away the meaning and depth from life.

Freely Distributed:

Soma is distributed by the government to everyone without cost. It is viewed as a basic part of daily life, just as much as food, clothing, or shelter. It is so normalized that there are no questions asked about its use or its effects. Citizens take it willingly, knowing that it will ease their troubles.

Here are the points in even simpler terms:

- 1.Soma numbs pain:** A drug to escape pain.
- 2.Avoiding bad feelings:** People take soma to not feel sad or anxious.
- 3.Sex as a distraction:** Sex is for fun, not love.
- 4.Shallow relationships:** No deep emotional connections.
- 5.World State's goal:** Make everything stable and predictable.
- 6.Loss of individuality:** People lose themselves in the pursuit of comfort.
- 7.No real connections:** Relationships are empty.
- 8.Message of the book:** Avoiding pain removes life’s meaning.

Sexual play

Sexual play among children is encouraged as part of their education, desensitizing them to intimacy and fostering promiscuity.

Education in Huxley's Vision

Conditioning and Indoctrination

- **Hypnopaedia (sleep-teaching)** *Brave New World* hypnopaedia a form of sleep teaching where children are conditioned with moral and social values while they sleep .
- **Moral Conditioning** : Instead of fostering independent thought , hypnopedia teaches people to accept and even enjoy their roles and social hierarchies .
- **Lesson** : Education in this society is less about intellectual freedom or discovery and more about maintaining control . This discourages curiosity and critical thinking , emphasizing conformity over creativity .

Repression of intellectual freedom

- **No Critical thinking** : In brave new world , critical thinking is discouraged . The society values consumerism , stability , pleasure over inquiry , challenging ideas or intellectual pursuits .
- **Factual Learning Over Creativity** : The Educational system focuses on rote learning and absorption of predetermined facts that align with the state ideology .
- **Lesson** : This approach to education limits personal growth and innovation . It shows the dangers of society where education serves as a tool for control rather than empowerment .

Role of Technology in Education

- **Technological Control** : Technology in Huxley's world plays a major role in both the delivery and content of education . It is not used to empower students to think critically or creatively but rather to reinforce state sanctioned ideas and behaviours .
- **Instant Gratification Over Knowledge** : People are conditioned to seek intermediate pleasure and distraction rather than to engage deeply with complex ideas .

Innovation in Huxley's Vision

Positive

Efficiency and Stability: The innovations in *Brave New World* lead to a highly organized and stable society. There is a deliberate eradication of poverty, disease, and social unrest through technological control.

Comfort and Happiness: Innovations such as the *Bokanovsky Process* (human cloning) and the use of *soma* (a drug for emotional regulation) guarantee happiness and comfort.

Negative

Loss of Individuality: Innovation in *Brave New World* results in the suppression of personal freedom. Individuals are conditioned from birth to conform to the roles assigned to them, leaving no room for personal growth, creativity, or even true love.

Dehumanization: The technological control and genetic manipulation used in Huxley's society strip away the essence of what it means to be human.

Ethics

Freedom vs. Control: The ethical dilemma in *Brave New World* revolves around the trade-off between individual freedom and collective stability.

The Role of Technology in Society: Huxley raises important ethical questions about the use of technology in society. While technology can lead to societal progress, Huxley warns against its unchecked use.

Sustainable Development Lessons

Brave New World offers a dystopian perspective on technology and society. The concepts of **sustainable development**, **overconsumption**, and **inequality** are deeply interwoven with the idea of **ethical innovation**, especially when considering how we can balance societal progress with the well-being of the planet and its people

Overconsumption and Inequality

Overconsumption:

- The developed world's overconsumption of resources is a major driver of environmental destruction, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and deforestation.

Inequality:

Inequality worsens the impact of overconsumption. The wealthy consume disproportionately more, often causing environmental damage, while the poor suffer the consequences of environmental degradation, lack of access to resources, and economic instability.

Global Perspective:

- Overconsumption is a global issue, but its effects disproportionately affect poorer nations. The poorest often face the worst impacts of environmental degradation, despite contributing least to the problem

Ethical Innovation

• Innovation with Purpose:

Ethical innovation focuses on creating products and solutions that solve societal problems, rather than just creating profit-driven products. This includes innovations in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and green technologies.

Design Thinking for Sustainability:

Ethical innovation requires a mindset of designing products and services that are inherently sustainable—thinking about their environmental and social impact from the outset

Regulation and Accountability:

Ethical innovation must also be regulated to ensure that it is aligned with the broader goals of sustainable development and the public good. Companies must be held accountable for the environmental and social impacts of their innovations.

Conclusion: Technology, Education , Human Flourishing

- **Technology can be harmful** – If misused or unethically applied, technology may widen educational gaps, limit opportunities, and create further social divisions.
- **Over-reliance on technology may hinder human development** – Instead of empowering individuals, excessive dependence on technology could weaken critical thinking, creativity, and independent decision-making.
- **Education without ethical integration of technology can be problematic** – If technology is not thoughtfully applied in education, it can become a tool for misinformation, distraction, or inequality rather than progress.
- **Technology can replace human potential rather than amplify it** – Automation and digitalization, if unchecked, might reduce human agency, eliminate jobs, and create disparities instead of fostering inclusivity.
- **Human flourishing could remain a privilege for a few** – Without proper ethical considerations, technology might continue benefiting only a select group, reinforcing existing inequalities rather than promoting collective well-being.



Brave New World & Sustainable Development Goals

Absolutely! Here are the key points from the text, broken down:

- **Welcome and Introduction:**

- The speaker is welcoming the audience to an exploration of Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World."
- The novel is described as a dystopian work that examines the dangers of unchecked technological advancement.

- **Focus on the Connection:**

- The speaker is glad to help explore the connection between "Brave New World" and sustainable development.
- Literature, like "Brave New World," can prompt deeper thinking about real-world issues.

- **Key Themes:**

- The speaker highlights the relevance of the novel to issues like technology, ethics, and the future of our planet.

- **Invitation and Closing:**

- The speaker encourages the audience to reach out with further questions or for more insights.
- They wish the audience well in their exploration of these important topics.

THANK

