

Topic of the Week: Characterisations

In groups of agents of the **Department of Identity Supervision** prepare citizen files for:

- a) Bernard Marx, *Anna, Henriekje, Stefan*
- b) Helmholtz Watson, *Danica, Ann-Kathrin, Peter*
- c) Lenina Crowne, *Niklas, Onno, Merle*
- d) John the Savage, *Torsten, David, Sophie*
- e) Mustapha Mond, *Duy, Tim, Lisa*
- f) the D.H.C, *Hauke, Eike*
- g) Linda. *Arne, Bishan*

Also, prepare a *Matrix*-like (“*Well, Mr. Anderson*”) scene in which your subject is interrogated on possible misdemeanour¹ and has to take position, either by admitting and submitting² himself/herself to the system and corrective measures or by standing up for himself/herself.

Present the file and your scene to the course. (*Please hand in your transparencies for scanning.*)

Afterwards:

In new groups consisting of one member of each former group, i.e. three new groups, create a relationship mindmap or freeze frame to get a better overview over the possibly dangerous connections between certain subjects.

Homework for next Tuesday:

The Reservation → A Closer Look on Characters

¹ **misdemeanour:** Fehlverhalte

² **(to) submit oneself:** sich unterwerfen

Ch. 6:

1. a) Think of reasons why the Director tells Bernard about his problem when he went to the reservation 25 years ago.
b) Explain why the Director has broken a taboo in talking about this episode.
2. Why does Bernard feel strong enough to fight the system after his meeting with the Director?

Ch. 7:

3. Explain Bernard's interest in John's story. What might he do with this information?

Ch. 8:

4. Analyse the reasons for the ambivalent feelings between John and Linda. How does their relationship reflect what Mond says in Chapter Three about families?
5. Compare John's feelings of aloneness with those of Bernhard.

Ch. 9:

6. What do we learn about Bernard in this chapter?
7. What are John's feelings towards Lenina?