Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Harrison Bergeron” Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be equal? Does equality mean that everyone is the same? What does Vonnegut think equality is?
2. Why do you think Kurt Vonnegut wrote this story? (theme)
3. What is the tone?
4. Think back to our discussion about direct and indirect characterization to determine if the following characters are flat or round: George, Hazel, Harrison. Support your analysis.
5. In traditional heroic stories the hero is a superhuman figure who saves people from an enemy. Cite a passage that claims Harrison’s superhuman qualities? How are the results of his efforts ironic?
6. Imagine you are the Diana Moon Glampers. How would you handicap the following people: Albert Einstein, Beyonce, LeBron James?
7. What is the climax of this story?
8. When does the falling action occur?
9. What is the resolution?
10. Rewrite the end of the story under the circumstances that Harrison lives and defeats Glampers. What happens next?