

TERM PAPER CONSULTATION – DATE: Jan 23, 2023 TIME: 10:00

Be sure you have written evidence and can talk (relatively) coherently about the following in preparation for your consultation.

<p>General Topic Assimilation in an artificial world.</p>
<p>Thesis Statement</p> <p>The novel's demonstration of corporate and technological cultivation assimilates Jimmy/Snowman into an artificial world, due to Crake's desire to explore the sciences, a parental conflict that leaves Jimmy to face the unknown, and the Crakers' mental and physical disproportionality that Snowman must face.</p> <p>In the novel, scientific assimilation prevents Jimmy from finding solace.</p>
<p>Main points (at least 3)</p> <p>Crake's hard focus on his scientific endeavours leaves Jimmy to question his only friend's loyalty to him, whose actions Jimmy sees as intimidating and out of his grasp.</p> <p>Jimmy, a man of art and humanities, questions Crake's hard focus on his scientific endeavours, leaving Jimmy alienated, powerless, and doubtful of Crake.</p>
<p>With data/examples/quotations</p> <p>Crake's plan comes from his desire to create a genetically-engineered empire. His endeavours limit Jimmy the opportunity to really understand Crake, who enjoys art rather than science.</p> <p>This leaves Jimmy to adhere to Crake's companionship despite a growing reluctance to his scientific innovations. He even expressed how things had gone too far, "some boundary transgressed."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Why is it he feels some line has been crossed, some boundary transgressed?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jimmy's reaction to the ChickieNobs and wolvogs indicates his epiphany that perhaps technology wasn't the way forward, but he also knows he is powerless over Crake and thus adheres to his ways. <p>"He was, after all, a student at the Martha Graham Academy, so he felt some need to defend the art-and-creativity turf."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As the world turns toward science, Jimmy feels inadequate having been assimilated into a world of technology, feeling the need to reinstate the importance of art.
<p>Main points (at least 3)</p> <p>Mortified by his mother's reprisal against his father's scientific endeavours, Jimmy is left to face the world without any parental consolation, again seeking refuge in other's company.</p> <p>Jimmy, having been mortified by Sharon's reprisal against his father's scientific endeavours, is left to face the world without any parental consolation while seeking refuge in others' company.</p>
<p>With data/examples/quotations</p>

"It's wrong, the whole organization is wrong, it's a moral cesspool and you know it."

- Sharon's comment about the unethicalities of genetic engineering. Further limits the people that Jimmy can look up to.

"Jimmy had mourned for weeks. No, for months. Which one of them was he mourning the most? His mother, or an altered skunk?"

- In an attempt to avoid mulling over his mother's departure, Jimmy mentions the rakunk as if her mother were no big deal to him.

"They knew about his scandalous mother, of course, these women. Ill winds blow far and find a ready welcome. [...] Soon the women would be consoling him, and he'd roll around in their sympathy"

- These "Ill winds" refer to Snowman's negative experience with his parents, letting out his outrage to people that listen to him (multiple girlfriends); this is **artificial gratification**, per se

Jimmy rarely sees his parents at all after this and focuses on developing his relationship with Crake and Oryx. He visits the Watson-Crick Institute with Crake as a means of overcoming his emotions from his mother's death.

"Grief in the face of inevitable death," said Crake.

Main points (at least 3)

Assimilation further plagues Snowman, as Jimmy now calls himself, due to his bleak relationship with the artificial Crakers that don't understand him nor represent Jimmy's morals.

With data/examples/quotations

"In the dawn light he punched in the door code for the last time and opened up the bubble, and led the Crakers out of Paradise."

- Jimmy experiences a moral crisis; as a man of art, he thinks negatively about the whole genetic-engineering venture but is so obliged to Crake's way of things. This influence is what allows him to release the Crakers (assimilation) and care for them, despite not knowing exactly how.

"The Crakers were like blank pages, he could write whatever he wanted on them."

- Instead of having someone console him, Snowman must instill morals and feelings in the Crakers (irony, since Snowman didn't get much time with his own parents)
- He sees nothing in the Crakers except their skin

The Crakers are always questioning Snowman, like a book. E.g. They implore the "moss growing out of [his] face" in a naive tone before Snowman tells them to go away.

- "'Now I'm alone,' he says out loud. 'All, all alone. Alone on a wide, wide sea.' One more scrap from the burning scrapbook in his head."

"although the Crakers weren't his business, they were now his responsibility."

- **Snowman, forced to assimilate into the Craker world, is now obliged to care for the Crakers since they are the closest things to being natural to Snowman. But that doesn't relieve Snowman of his uneasiness.**

So what? Why do your conclusions matter within the context of the novel? What do they lead us to? How do they expand on our understanding of the theme(s)?

Despite his attempts to find comfort in Crake's technological haven, Jimmy's natural preference for the arts and humanities causes him to develop feelings of reluctance and powerlessness as he assimilates himself into the unforgiving future. It is this dichotomy between artificial versus human that prevents people from truly understanding where they fit in the world.

It is helpful, but not necessary, if you have some idea of the composition pattern of argument that your logic will follow as well (see your *Act of Writing* and *Canadians Writers' Reference* for information).