**“Harrison Bergeron” Comparison**

*Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences. Make sure you answer all parts of the question.*

1. One of the most significant differences between the 2081 short film and the “Harrison Bergeron” short story is that the filmmaker altered Harrison’s declaration of himself as emperor. Instead, Harrison plants a bomb, which may or may not have been real, and a broadcasting signal override device. How does this alteration change the story for you? Why, do you suppose, the filmmaker decided to make this alteration?

2. Name two more differences between the short film and Vonnegut’s story. Why do you suppose the filmmaker made these changes?

3. Which version of the story did you prefer? Explain your answer with thoughtful reasoning.

4. In our society, we say that we celebrate the success of those who are especially intelligent, talented, or hard-working, yet we often treat exceptional people poorly. Describe a specific case of a standout person being pulled down by others and explain what it shows us about human nature.

5. Some parents teach their children that “the squeaky wheel gets the grease,” while others prefer to reinforce the idea that “the nail that sticks up gets hammered down.” Which philosophy holds more truth for you? Give a real-life example from your life, studies, or observations to support your answer.

6. *1984. The Giver. The Hunger Games. Divergent.* “Harrison Bergeron” is just one example in a long list of dystopian literature that has captivated audiences over the past 100 years. Dystopian stories present futuristic societies that have become repressive, government-controlled states where people have given up many of their personal freedoms, often under the guise of living in an ideal community. Looking at this story and what you know of other books/films from this genre, what does the popularity of these books and films show us about people’s beliefs and fears today?