English 1

Mr. Scholtz

“Harrison Bergeron” Discussion Questions

What are the functions of the agents of “the United States Handicapper General”?

How is radical mediocrity achieved and enforced?

How are George and Hazel Bergeron described? What sort of life do they lead?

Why is Harrison Bergeron such a threat to society? How old is he? How has he been “handicapped”?

What is the meaning of Harrison and the ballerina being shot down by Diana Moon Glampers, the Handicapper General?

Why does Hazel Bergeron forget what she is crying about?

What is the meaning of the last words of the Bergerons, “that one was a doozy”?

Do you think Harrison knows he will die as a result of his behavior? Are you shocked by his death?

Is there a moral to this story? What is it?

If you lived in Harrison Bergeron’s world, what sorts of handicaps do you think that you might be given? Why? Why do you think these are your strengths? What sort of weaknesses do you have that would force other people to be given

handicaps, to bring them down to your level?