Rising Eleventh Grade Summer Reading and Writing Assignment

Your summer assignment is to read and pen a literary essay of no fewer than three pages about Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World*. Analysis should hinge on the following:

In *Brave New World*, how does Huxley pervert—as scribes of dystopian texts are wont to do—truths and/or ideals dear to (the author’s satirized) society? As you plumb the text and the query, consider these lines from Shakespeare’s *Tempest* (and, indeed, *Brave New World*’s Shakespearean motif, entire), from which the author culled the novel’s title: “How many goodly creatures are there here! / How beauteous mankind is! O brave new world, / That has such people in’t!”

Your essay must include and/or demonstrate the following:

- Engaging, meaningful, unique thesis that is strong enough to 1) control your primary argument and 2) lead to a richer understanding of character and subtext
- Judicious selection of quotations from the text
- Harmonious marriage of original writing and textual support
- Utter absence of plot summary
- Full explication of ideas
- Seamless discussion of literary devices (in context)
- Fluidity; logical albeit intriguing organization and flow
- Mature syntax and diction (appropriate for academic/literary writing)
- Impeccable grammar and mechanics
- Pious adherence to MLA formatting

You should arrive with a draft on the first day of school (yes, it will be checked); the essay will ultimately be due the following Monday.

*Happy summer, and happy reading and writing!*