

Student's Name

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"Sixteen thousand and twelve in this Centre," Mr. Foster¹ replied without hesitation. He spoke very quickly, had a vivacious blue eye, and took an evident pleasure in quoting figures. "Sixteen thousand and twelve; in one hundred and eighty-nine batches of identicals. But of course they've done much better," he rattled on, "in some of the tropical Centres. Singapore has often produced over sixteen thousand five hundred; and Mombasa has actually touched the seventeen thousand mark" (8-9).

In the lift, on their way up to the changing rooms, Henry Foster² and the Assistant Director of Predestination rather pointedly turned their backs on Bernard Marx from the Psychology Bureau: averted themselves from that unsavoury reputation (34).

¹ **Henry Foster** (1796-1831), known for his scientific observations on expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctica (Baily). Thematically the allusion corresponds with Henry's obsessive analysis and knowledge of numbers in *Brave New World*; note the hyperbole in the quotation and the phrase "evident pleasure in quoting figures" (Shmoop Editorial Team). Finally consider the "Tropical Centres" as a possible connection to Foster's exploration since he also surveyed in Panama, where he died by drowning in the Chagres River ("Henry Foster [scientist]").

² **Henry Foster** (1796-1831), an officer in the British Navy, an institution known for enforcing conformity and maintaining the stability of England's global control. Thematically the allusion corresponds with Henry's shunning of a member of society who questions conformity in *Brave New World*. Consider the juxtaposition between Bernard Marx and Henry Foster with the word "averted" and the "unsavoury reputation" further emphasizing Bernard's isolation.

Works Cited

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<<http://www.shmoop.com/brave-new-world/henry-foster.html>>