

Oryx and Crake - Chapter 7 (*Sveltana – Blue*)

Read the questions first, and then complete the readings. Some, but not all, questions are in chronological order, while others require a larger understanding of the complete section.

ALL MEMBERS are encouraged to contribute to the discussions for each question. Dividing up the questions to do individually runs contrary to the nature of the assignment. However, with respect to individual circumstances and workloads during this time, students are encouraged to take care of any outstanding work for the course *before* working on the novel.

1. “Not that he is infectious: what he’s got they’ll never catch. They’re immune from him.”
Comment on the significance of this quote (at the end of *Sveltana*, but a general understanding of Snowman/ Jimmy and the story up to the end of this section would help).
2. As described in this section, the Crakers seem to be a humanoid race made up of the genetic blueprints of several animal species. Find at least THREE attributes the Crakers possess and explain where those attributes came from.
3. In Crake’s view, what is the problem with *Love*? In making the Crakers, how does Crake seem to solve this problem?
4. What debate does the “Love” issue start between Crake and Jimmy?
5. Where do you stand in the debate between Art and Science? Which is more important to the testament of the legacy of the human race (It’s more fun if you pick a side and try to defend it, rather than say both are important)? Are there any other areas of human achievement that are equally important or potentially damaging? Do you think these questions or concerns are in the minds of many students as they transition from High School to the rest of their lives? Why or why not?