

Harrison Bergeron Digital Escape Room

Teacher Instructions

Thank you for your purchase! Your students are going to love solving puzzles in this 360° digital escape room. This activity is designed to work for a laptop, tablet, or smart phone. Students will solve a series of clues based on the short story "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut. Please do not share this link with other educators as it is my copyrighted work and against my terms of licensing. You can purchase additional licenses in my [TpT store](#).

Have your students work independently or in teams! Included in this zip folder are: teacher instructions (with answer keys), student instructions, the master lock graphic organizer, reflection sheet, and printable copies of Clues 1-6 (some students might find it easier to complete the puzzles on paper). While using this resource, you must have a wi-fi connection and the ability to access the following sites: kuula.co and Google Forms (your students do not need a Google account).

The room is a 360 degree panoramic photo, so the clues are all around the digital room. You must click your mouse and hold down the cursor to scan the entire room. Drag the arrow in whichever way you'd like to go. If you are using a smart phone, simply swipe your finger.

No password is required to gain access to the room. If this happens to you, it means your district's firewall is blocking the program and you should contact your IT department.

Harrison Bergeron Escape Room

Suggested Lesson Procedure:

1. Share the directions (PDF) with your students digitally. The student directions include the student link to the escape room. Verbally review your expectations with your students. Put students in groups of 2-3.
2. Set a timer for 45 minutes (or longer) using a classroom timer. Timing students is optional.
3. Upon entering the room, have your students start by clicking the "1" button (shown below). In addition to being the first clue, this will give students some insight as to why they need to "escape." In this activity, your students need to "escape" the Handicapper General.
4. The 6 clues are labeled by numbers. For every clue students figure out, they must record their answers on their Master Lock graphic organizer (on paper). The master lock (a google form) requires 6 correct answers from all 6 clues and is mandatory for students to "escape." They can find the link to the Master Lock located on the door when they are ready to escape.
5. Once time is up, ask students to fill out a reflection sheet to get their feedback (optional). If you find that most of your students did not finish, you can extend the activity and allow them to continue the next day.



Clue 1

in a world of rules and Weights,
where equality dictates,
harrison bergeron took a stand,
defying laws with freedom's Hand.

but general diAna, stern and bold,
her mission clear, her aim unTold,
to keep the balance, to enforce the norm,
to quell rebellion In its form.

with every Step, with every breaTh,
harrison danced tHe dance of death,
for in this world, wherE all must match,
life is prison, we must detach.

yet harrison dared to break the chAins,
to feel the wind, to bear the pains,
of weights reMoved, of shackles gonE,
his spirit sOared, his will shone on.

but general diana, with watchFul eye,
her aim fixed high, her purpose niGh,
to quEnch the flame Of his defiance,
to restore order with her science.

but even in the daRkest hour,
there's strenGth in resisting powEr.
so let us remember harrison'S flight,
his desire for pOWer, his quest for light,

in thIs room, you're trapped and confined
solve the riddles, and freedom you'll find.
six diffErent clues, you're on the clock
get them all right, and thE door will unlock.

Hint: Pay attention to the capitalized letters.

Clue #2

Below is a list of direct quotes from the short story, "Harrison Bergeron."

After reading all of the sentences, count how many of them contain similes. That number is your final answer for Clue 2.

- ___ 1. They leaped like deer on the moon.
- ___ 2. Nobody was smarter than anybody else.
- ___ 3. His thoughts fled in panic like bandits from a burglar alarm.
- ___ 4. A buzzer sounded in George's head.
- ___ 5. Scrap metal was hung all over him.
- ___ 6. Harrison looked like a walking junkyard.
- ___ 7. A ballerina arose, swaying like a willow.
- ___ 8. That was a real pretty dance, that dance they just did.
- ___ 9. Harrison snatched two musicians from their chairs, waved them like batons as he sang the music as he wanted it played.
- ___ 10. The bar snapped like celery.



A	
B	22
C	10
D	1
E	9
F	8
G	
H	21
I	
J	15
K	
L	
M	20
N	17
O	
P	
Q	
R	
S	26
T	13
U	
V	
W	
X	
Y	
Z	

CLUE 3

Each letter corresponds to a number and vice versa. Complete the partially finished phrase by guessing the missing letters. As you guess letters correctly, you will find that the puzzle becomes easier and easier.

 H T S
5 21 2 13 4 26

D N
1 4 2 17 2

M N
20 11 11 17

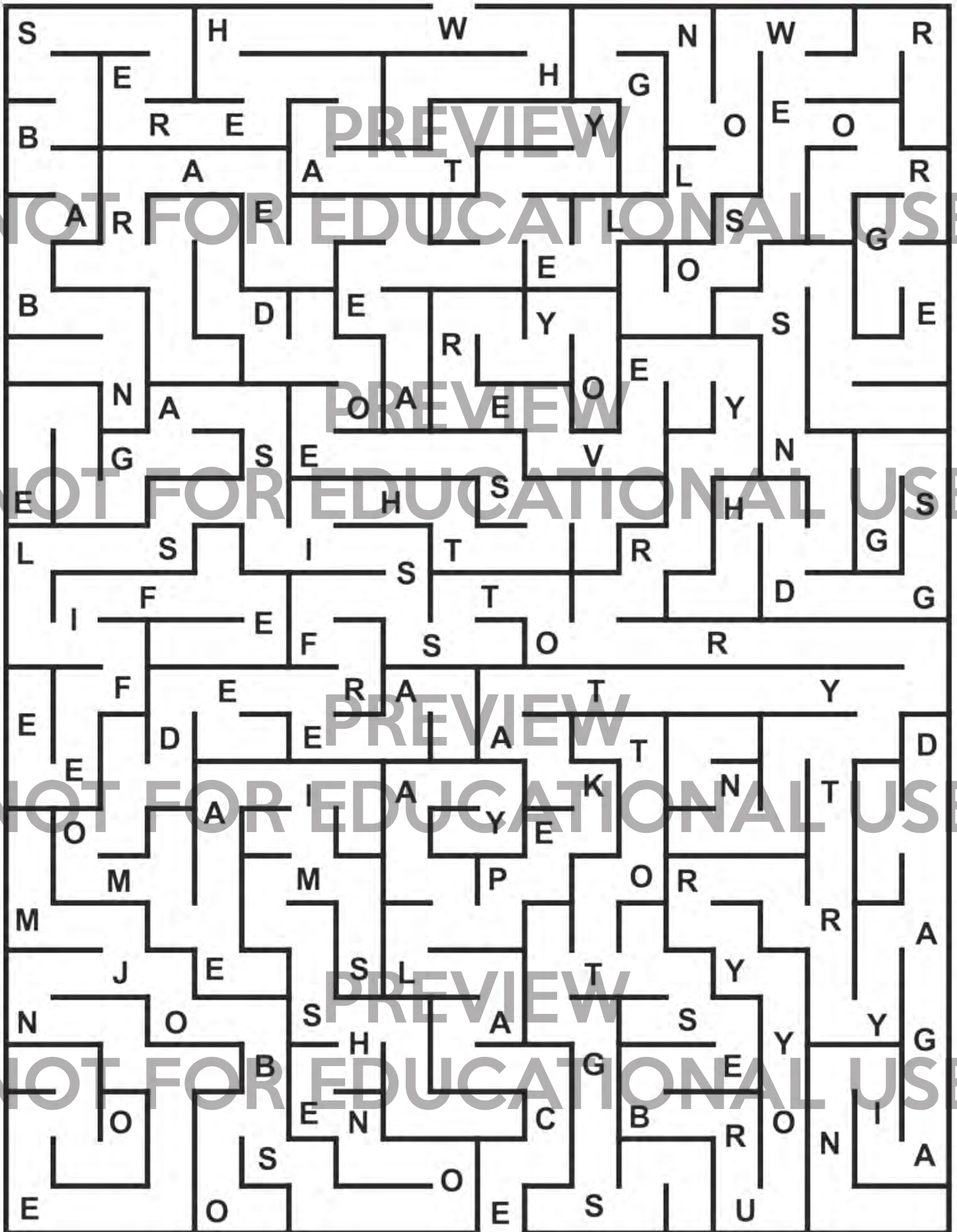
 M E S
19 3 2 20 25 9 24 26

 F F C
11 8 8 4 10 4 2 3

J B T T E
15 11 22 13 4 13 3 9

Start

CLUE 4



Finish

CLUE 5

ab	cd	ef
gh	ij	kl
mn	op	qr

st
uv
wx
yz



Clue 6

1) What are Mr. and Mrs. Bergeron watching on television?

- a. ballet
- b. soccer
- c. football
- d. tennis

2) Where is Harrison supposed to be when the story begins?

- a. his bedroom
- b. in school
- c. in jail
- d. the library

3) What does Harrison declare on national television?

- a. "Freedom isn't free!"
- b. "The devil sits in the throne!"
- c. "My father is George Bergeron!"
- d. "I am the Emperor!"

4) What happens to Harrison at the end of the story?

- a. He escapes to a remote island.
- b. He is executed by the government.
- c. He is permanently imprisoned in a mental institution.
- d. He is reunited with his parents.

5) What word best describes society in this story?

- a. free
- b. tolerant
- c. repressive
- d. lenient

6) What is one theme or message of this story?

- a. If people give up their freedom, it may be exceedingly difficult to get back.
- b. The government always does what's best for everyone.
- c. Individuals must refrain from supporting family members who break the law.
- d. The smartest people are the ones who should rule the world.



The Master Lock



Clue Number	Answers
Clue #1	
Clue #2	
Clue #3	
Clue #4	
Clue #5	
Clue #6	

Name:

Class:

Harrison Bergeron

Digital Escape Room Reflection

1. Were you able to escape the room before the time was up? Explain.

2. What was your favorite part about the escape room?

3. What was the biggest challenge you encountered in the escape room? Was there anything you found too confusing or too difficult to solve?

4. Would you like to do more escape rooms in the future? Explain.

5. Is there anything you would change about the activity today to enhance your experience?

6. If you worked in a group, how did all of the group members work together? Did everyone participate? Explain.

Master Lock

On the door is a picture of a lock. This is the link to the Master Lock. This is where students will find the google form to escape. They will type in all their answers from clues 1-6. If they are correct, they will get the screen that says "Congratulations!"



Harrison Bergeron Master Lock

CONGRATULATIONS!!! You've escaped!!!

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