After watching a movie or listening to a TEDtalk or reading a piece of literature, a poem, or any other piece of writing, fill in the chart below. When complete, file into your “Inquiry” folder OR print and keep for future reference. You teacher may ask to keep your work as an example to expand understanding in the class

**Title** Harrison Bergeron **Your name:** Jason S

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| **Which Essential Question(s) is addressed in this piece of literature?** | **Content:**   1. What happens in the text/movie/Talk? 2. What is the main message/theme? | **Understanding:**  How does the text answer the EQ?  *Answer in full sentences. Record relevant quotes and page numbers/lines if needed.* |
| Why are people always trying to be like someone else? | a) In the short story, the main character Harrison is arrested at the age of 14. His parents George and Hazel have forgotten about his existence from the ear pieces that erase thoughts. During a ballet show, there is a breaking news bulletin stating that Harrison has escaped from prison. He arrives at the theatre and dances with a ballerina. Then, the Handicapper General arrives and kills Harrison and the ballerina. George and Hazel both see the killing, but they both forget due to their ear pieces ringing.  b) People are different in every way, no one has the right to be superior over someone else | In the short story, the main message has the opposite message from the one in the inquiry question. If we were to answer the inquiry question, we can say people try to be like others around them because they don’t want to assume or believe that they are different. In our modern society, being different in a big way is considered to be a bad thing. The truth is, it isn’t. There are many positives about being different from others. You have your own distinct colour and personality which is evidently different from the one next to you.  In the short story, people are born the same. Not equally, but the same. They find it normal that everybody has the same traits, the same values, that nobody knows the real value of being different. In real life, people try to be the same because they’re scared of being different. They find it abnormal to have 9 fingers, or a crooked nose, or just having different beliefs. Because of that, they try to be the same, fit in with everybody else.  In Harrison Bergeron, people are stopped from having thoughts that would cause someone to go against the flow. For example, whenever George would start to have a thought that would go against the original beliefs of the public society, the ear piece would make horrible sounds, thus dissolving any previous thoughts he would’ve had. |