Context of Brave New World

**Historical Context**
- Written in late 20's/early 30's in Britain
- World has just experienced 1st World War
  - Idea of utopia shattered.
  - Rise of totalitarian regimes e.g. Soviet Union, Nazi party
- Developments in technology & science e.g. weaponry and chemical from WW2
- War caused for development of mass produced weapons out of USA
- Increasing focus on consumerism & mass production
- Developments in transport making world a smaller place.
- Shift in world power from Britain to USA/Russia
- Post war economic boom + great depression
  - Work projects, increased spending
- Changing attitudes towards life due to war
  - Life is short
  - Rise in promiscuity & focus on leisure, drug & alcohol use.
- Development of cinema as a prime form of entertainment & propaganda
  - Great fear & interest due to failing economy, unemployment & Wall Street Crash.
  - Author
  - Well educated
  - Upper-class/privileged by (prominent lineage)
  - Pacifist.
- Wanted to be a doctor but nearly went blind so became a teacher of literature instead.
- Great appreciation of language & literature.
- Saw intellectuals as necessary to get UK back on track after war/ depression. (believed they should run the country)
- Disliked consumer society & ideologies developing in US when writing.
- Concerned with increased power & influence of USA after war didn't want them to spread.
- Believed in model of world state (centralised control)
- Propaganda to an extent
- 'Reason, order, stability' needed to have an effective government and society
- In favour of eugenics to prevent deterioration of the most superior humans (intellectuals)

Preview from Notesale.co.uk