

**Honors** **English 11** **Summer Reading Assignment 2018**

***Fahrenheit 451*, by Ray Bradbury**

We hope you will enjoy reading Ray Bradbury’s classic futuristic novel! (Note: This is **in addition to** our school-wide summer reading of *Hidden*, by Helen Frost*.*)

**Important:** We will have multiple assessments on *Fahrenheit* during the first quarter, including a test and analysis paper. Students who do not complete the summer assignment jeopardize their first quarter grade significantly. Those who recently enrolled at Westfield will receive an extension.

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Please **type** your responses to the questions below in **MLA format, starting with a proper heading.** Clearly number and title each section. Write thoughtfully and independently without consulting outside sources. Your work should also be **carefully edited**.

This assignment is due during **t**he **second week of school** in September. (We don’t call it a summer assignment for nothing.) ☺

1. **Article response:** Write a thoughtful reflection **(about a page)** about the following article on the history of book-burning. (See link below.)

* Begin with a **TAG** (identification of title, author, genre) and a concise **summary** of the article’s content; in several sentences, capture the different points addressed in the article. Then **introduce** your thoughts on it.
* In a separate paragraph, elaborate on each of these thoughts. (A meaningful reflection might include any or all of the following: What did you learn by reading the article? Did the piece remind you of anything you had previously learned? What surprised or shocked you? What images or word choices struck you while reading? Does this article provide valuable lessons--Why or why not? What other thoughts did you have while reading the article?)

**Note:** Your response should include at least **two direct quotations (with proper MLA citations)** from the article. Please **highlight** these quotations in yellow.

<http://www.theguardian.com/books/2010/sep/10/book-burning-quran-history-nazis>

1. **Character descriptions:** Identify the following 6 characters and briefly describe their **qualities** and **notable deeds** (both) throughout the novel. Write **3-5 complete sentences** for each. Include vivid detail. One question to consider: Does this character embody the values of this futuristic world, or does he/she stand **in opposition** to those values? Perhaps he/she starts out one way but ends up another. (If so, explain that.) Remember, these discussions must be **entirely your own**.
2. Montag
3. Clarisse
4. Mildred
5. Beatty
6. Faber
7. Granger
8. **Bradbury as Prognosticator:** Considering that Ray Bradbury published this novel in 1951, some say the author was a brilliant visionary. Examine six features of modern life (listed in the graphic organizer on side 2 of this document) that are present in the novel and, arguably, are abundantly present in our society today. Bullet at least **3 examples** in each box (3 specific examples from the novel, and 3 examples witnessed in today’s society). Add paper if needed. (No other writing is required for this one—just the completed graphic organizer. In early September you will use your notes for a timed writing. As mentioned, you will also take a test on the novel.)

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Honors English 11

**Bradbury as Prognosticator: Features of Modern Life in *Fahrenheit 451* and in today’s world**

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| **Features** | 3 **specific** examples of this feature in the novel –MEANINGFUL BULLETS ONLY; write legibly! | 3 specific examples of this feature in America today  MEANINGFUL BULLETS ONLY; write legibly! |
| 1. fast pace of life/ short attention spans |  | . |
| 2. violence/ diminished value for human life |  |  |
| 3. emphasis on shallow entertainment |  |  |
| 4. diminished value for knowledge and education |  |  |
| 5.diminishment of quiet pursuits and family life |  |  |
| 6. prevalence of technology, with dehumanizing effects |  |  |