

Fahrenheit 451

Reading and Writing Outline (may change at teacher's discretion)

I will occasionally add extra assignments AND quizzes.

Literary Response Journal

To prepare for class discussion, please respond to the question provided below. Each entry must be dated and a minimum of two paragraphs of 5-6 sentences. Feel free to expand your answer to include interesting observations about the text. Each entry is worth 5 points and will be evaluated on depth of thought and writing.

If you miss class, you are responsible for completing each journal question on your own.

Journals must be:

In a designated spiral bound notebook.

Each entry must be dated.

Demonstrate thoughts, reaction and understanding of reading.

February 23/24: Introduction to Fahrenheit 451 – Watch “The Obsolete Man” discuss themes, culture and meaning. Watch Ray Bradbury biography and discussion of Fahrenheit. In class writing: Why did Ray Bradbury begin his book with the Juan Ramon Jimenez quote “If they give you ruled paper; write the other way.” Write two paragraphs about how this quote relates to Bradbury’s life.

Assignments:

- Read to page 31.
- Journal Question: Consider the differences between Montag’s life and Clarisse’s life. Explain them in your journal.

February 25/28: Discuss beginning of the novel. Review study guide questions from reading assignment one.

Assignment:

- Finish Part One
- Journal Question: Why does the narrator introduce s to Montag at this time of his life, when he encounters Clarisse and confronts Mildred’s overdose?

March 1/2: Write a letter to Captain Beatty responding to his ideas about education and his charge that “a book is a loaded gun” (58). Discuss how technology within the novel compares to our current technology. In the first pages of the novel, does technology improve the quality of life for Montag and his wife, Mildred?

Assignment:

- Read Part Two (71 – 93)
- Journal Question: Five significant characters have been introduced: Montag, Clarisse, Mildred, Beattie, and Faber – make a list of what motivates them.

March 3/4: Discuss Part Two. Review discussion questions for second reading. Discuss the status of education in the U.S.

Assignment:

- Finish Part II – The Sieve and the Sand p. 94-110.
- Journal Question: Explore the meaning of the title in either Part One or Part Two.

March 7/8: Discuss Part II and work in groups to examine the role of “foils” in the novel. Review first 110 pages and look for occasions when a character brings out dramatic responses from Montag. How does the character lead Montag toward self-realization? How does Montag’s

relationship to the character change? Present conclusions to the class and use specific textual support for conclusions.

Assignment:

- Write one page explaining why Bradbury chose his section titles. Choose one title either from part one or two.
- Read pages 111-130

March 9/10: Discuss Image, Simile and Metaphor. Note the description of the Mechanical Hound. How is the Mechanical Hound a symbol of something else? Are there other images in the reading that could be symbols?

Assignment:

- Read 131 – 145.
- Journal Question: What kind of transformation has Montag experienced? Consider whether anyone else in the novel has undergone a similar journey.

SPRING BREAK MARCH 11 THROUGH 18

March 21-22: Big review! Reread the detailed description of the Hound (24) and the battle (120). Why might Montag's expression of affection to the Hound mark a turning point in his development? What role does affection play in this world? What might be the significance of Montag's final battle with the Hound? Finally, how might the Mechanical Hound be a symbol for Montag's world?

Assignment:

- Finish Part Three
- Journal Question: What are the most important turning points in the novel?

March 23/24: In groups map a timeline that depicts the development of the story and the building of drama. This map includes the most significant turning points, but also examines the lesser events that build tension. Define the beginning, middle and end of the novel. Groups present their timelines.

Assignment:

- Read the "Afterword" and the "Coda"

March 25/28: Review novel themes: Happiness, Knowledge, Freedom of Thought and Education. Find a quote for at least one of the themes and be prepared to support your choice. Brainstorm for essay from the list of topics

Assignment:

- Work on essay

March 29/30: Work on essay

March 31/1 – Essay Due and uploaded to turnitin.com