

***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury**
9th Grade Summer Reading Assignment
Due: Friday, August 20, 2021

First, read the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. As you read, consider the idea of a world without books and why those in charge felt like it was important to remove reading material from most citizens. Keep track of meaningful quotes, important moments, and themes that appear.

Next, make a copy of this [Google Slide template](#) to respond to the novel. You may change the theme or design elements of this template, or create your own using a similar format. On your Google Slide, be sure to elaborate on the following aspects of the novel:

Slide 1: Title and author. Include your name and the date.

Slide 2: Identify and describe four important characters, including the protagonist. Replace the photos with your vision of the character: can be animals, fictional characters, paintings, stock photos, etc. (right click on photo, choose "Replace Image") Be sure to explain how the character thinks and feels about the world they find themselves in. In addition, summarize their main character arc through the course of the novel.

Slide 3: In order, identify and explain 5-6 major events in the story. These are plot points and will contain the beginning, middle, and end.

Slide 4: Identify and discuss a theme for each section of the novel. A theme is a universal idea or recurring idea that relates to the meaning of the work as a whole, as well as comments on historical events or common experiences of the intended audience of the novel.

Slide 5-7: Dialectical Journal - Dive into the text. Include one entry for each of the three sections of the novel. Please see information about dialectical journals below. It is important to always explain why you think something or like something.

1. Each TEXT entry **must be at least 30 words**. Each COMMENTARY **must be at least 90 words**.
2. First person writing (using the pronoun "I") is acceptable in the COMMENTARY column.
3. Remember the quotations in the TEXT column do not have to be dialogue; rather, it is evidence from the text.

Slide 8: I BELIEVE STATEMENTS from Montag at the start of the novel and then towards the end.
EXAMPLE from *The DaVinci Code*: *I believe there are always answers to life's mysteries if you dig deep enough. Sometimes, you must rely on the help & support of good people to guide you in the right direction. Most importantly, never forget to forgive before it's too late for indeed one needs family and friends to love, share memories, and decipher the puzzles of life."*

Slide 9: If you were to join the Book People, which book or work of literature would you choose to memorize in order to preserve it and pass on to others? Include an image of the work and explain why you chose it.

Dialectical Journal Response

A dialectical journal is a written conversation with yourself about a piece of literature that encourages the habit of reflective questioning. You will use a double-entry format to examine details of a passage and synthesize your understanding of the text. **Any assistance from secondary sources such as Sparknotes, Cliff Notes, or wikipedia or the film will be viewed as cheating or plagiarism.**

In the **TEXT** column, choose a passage to cite. How do you choose what passages to write down?

Passages become important if:

- Details in the passage seem important to you.
- You learn something significant about a character.
- You recognize a pattern (recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols, descriptions, details, etc.).
- You agree or disagree with something a character says or does.
- You find an interesting or potentially significant quotation.
- You notice something important or relevant about the author's writing style.
- You notice effective use of literary devices (only 3 times in total)
- You think that the passage contributes to or reveals a theme in the novel.

In the **COMMENTARY** column, reflect upon the passages and include a literary device:

- Give your personal reactions to the passage, the characters, the situation.
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character.
- Compare the text to other characters or novels.
- Write about what it makes you think or feel.
- Write about questions you have or details that confuse you and why.
- Argue with or speak to the characters or author.
- Make connections to any themes that are revealed to you.
- Make connections among passages or sections of the work.
- Make predictions about the characters' futures.

Sample Dialectical Journal Entry

TEXT	COMMENTARY
<p>"The puddle had frozen over, and me and Cathy went stompin in it. The twins from next door, Tyrone and Terry, were swingin so high out of sight we forgot we were waitin our turn on the tire. Cathy jumped up and came down hard on her heels and started tapdancin. And the frozen patch splinterin every which way underneath was kinda spooky. 'Looks like a plastic spider web,' she said. 'A sort of weird spider, I guess, with many mental problems'" (Bambara 35).</p>	<p>In this first paragraph of the story, Bambara indirectly characterizes the narrator using rural Southern dialect to let us know that the story is set in the South and our narrator is not necessarily educated. We also learn that the characters are children from the activities the author describes. I also like the imagery of the puddle freezing over, which I guess also lets us know that it is winter. I also really like the imagery of the splintering puddle and the "tapdancin." The writer seems to be establishing a humorous and lighthearted mood at the beginning of the story. I wonder if the mood will stay lighthearted. (110 words)</p>

Literary Devices

allusion - A reference in a written or spoken text to another text or to some particular body of knowledge.

Ex: "I doubt if Phaethon feared more -- that time/ he dropped the sun-reins of his father's chariot/ and burned the streak of sky we see today" (Dante's Inferno).

antagonist - a character in a story or poem who deceives, frustrates, or works against the main character, or protagonist, in some way. Ex: The Joker is the antagonist to Batman.

flashback - an interruption of the chronological sequence (as of a film or literary work) of an event of earlier occurrence" Ex: In the movie *Forrest Gump*, the story of Forrest's life is told in flashbacks.

hyperbole - An exaggeration for effect. Ex 1: "I told you a billion times not to exaggerate." Ex 2: "...we scattered light through half Astoria..." (Fitzgerald 72).

imagery - A passage of text that evokes sensation or emotional intensity.

Ex: "Waves crashing on the ocean look like knives."

irony - a literary term referring to how a person, situation, statement, or circumstance is not as it would actually seem. There are three types: verbal, situational, and dramatic.

metaphor - An implied comparison that does not use the word like or as. Ex: "No man is an island" (Donne).

oxymoron - Juxtaposed words with seemingly contradictory meanings. Ex: "O miserable abundance! O beggarly riches!" (Donne).

personification - a figure of speech where animals, ideas or inorganic objects are given human characteristics. Ex: The sun smiled down on the playing children.

point of view - The perspective or source of a piece of writing. A first-person point of view has a narrator or speaker who refers to himself or herself as "I." A third-person point of view lacks "I" in perspective. Ex: *The Great Gatsby* is written from a first-person point of view.

protagonist - The major character in a piece of literature; the figure whose interests the reader is most concerned about and sympathetic toward. Ex: Tom Joad is the protagonist in *The Grapes of Wrath*.

setting - The context—including time and place—of a narrative. Ex: The area surrounding New York City, Long Island, in the 1920s is the setting of *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

simile - A type of comparison that uses the word like or as. Ex: "There was something gorgeous about him, some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life, as if he were related to one of those intricate machines that register earthquakes ten thousand miles away" (Fitzgerald 2).

theme - The message conveyed by a literary work. Ex: The decline of the American dream is the major theme in *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

tone - The writer's or speaker's attitude toward the subject matter. Ex: The tone is light-hearted in *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* by Michael Chabon.