

Summer Reading Writing Tasks for *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

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(This assignment will be graded as a paper: Spelling, grammar, and details count. Also, your text will be checked for annotations.)

1. Is Montag happy in Chapter 1? *Explain in about three sentences, giving details from the text.*
2. How and why do elements of the conversations with Clarisse affect Montag? *Write a full paragraph of at least 8 sentences on this. Include a good, specific topic sentence and two quotations (introduced, integrated, and analyzed.)*
3. What do Clarisse's accounts of school and leisure activities reveal about youth culture in the book? *Answer in a full paragraph of at least 5 sentences, using (either or both) quotations and specific examples.*
4. Write a paragraph identifying points of contrast between the scenes with Clarisse and those with Mildred.
5. According to Beatty, what were the causes of the institution of firemen? *Make a chronological list. (Bullet points are fine)*
6. Which details of Beatty's account (of firemen) make it credible/incredible? Is his account a *history* or simply a *fable* meant to influence Montag's behavior? *Answer in two or three sentences.*
7. What does Beatty mean when he states, "Things began to have *mass*"? *Answer in a paragraph, using supporting quotations.*
8. Reread Montag's conversation with Faber in Chapter Two (76-89) and Granger's account of history (144-150). *Summarize each in a paragraph (2 paragraphs)*
9. *Isolate and write in your notebook three to five points of comparison between these discourses (in question 8) with that of Beatty on 51-60.*
10. Is Montag happier at the end of the novel than he was at the beginning? How can the reader tell? *Explain in several sentences.*
11. Formulate a *thesis* for the following prompt: **What is Bradbury's message? What does he want the reader to take away from this novel?**