

English 10H Summer Reading Assignment *Fahrenheit 451*

To: 2019-20 Students of English 10 Honors

From: Your sophomore honors English teachers: Ivanna Fritz or Seaghan Herron

Re: Summer reading

As your English 9 teachers have probably already told you, in preparation for course work in English 10H next school year, we are asking that you read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury over the summer. Be aware that we will be comparing other mediated versions of this story, so READ the book! Please purchase a **composition notebook** and keep it as your journal in which you will answer the following questions and support your answers with text from the novel. You will use this notebook throughout the year!

As you read, write responses to each question, labeling them appropriately. 10 pages (one side = 1 page) of the composition notebook is a minimum expectation.

1. How does censorship of books first come about? Are there similar ways in which our society “censors” books or other forms of expression?
2. What roles do the media play in this society? Can you compare or contrast that role to the role the media plays in our lives?
3. What are the values of this society? How are those values acted upon by the characters in the novel? How do those values compare or contrast to the values in today’s society?
4. What types of relationships dominate in this culture? Why has the society evolved in that way? Are there any comparisons to our own relationships?
5. How does Bradbury’s use of literary devices such as irony, satire, and symbolism enrich this novel? What influence do the frequent allusions have on the reader and the reader’s interpretation of the theme of the novel?
6. How do Bradbury’s experiences with the times in which he lives influence this novel?

As you read, select evidence **including page numbers** from the novel that could be used to support your position on the questions. We encourage you to purchase a novel. E-books are ok, but might be difficult to mark. The pagination is usually off which makes it difficult when we discuss parts and cite quotations. If you own a copy of the book you are reading, jot notes in the margins of the novel to help you answer questions later. Highlighting or underlining passages might also be considered. Tabbing quotations with post-it flags is wonderful! Make sure you give yourself a color key to guide you. If you check a book out of the library, only use sticky notes to mark important information for your responses.

You will have an objective comprehension test **Friday, August 30th**. Your journal is due Tuesday, Sept.3. The rest of the unit will include writing and discussion about these questions and supporting your answers with direct quotations in MLA format. The culminating assessment will be an essay exam in which you will be expected to use the resources you have gathered (including your journal, tabbed novel, etc.).

Enjoy the novel and have a wonderful summer. We are looking forward to an interesting and exciting school year with you in our classes. You may e-mail either of us with questions: fritzi@sd5.k12.mt.us or herrons@sd5.k12.mt.us