Name: Due Date:

*Fahrenheit 451* Essay Topics

Please choose one of the following topics for your 3-5 page analytical essay. Your essay may not be less than 3 pages but may exceed the required 5 pages with my permission.

1. Ray Bradbury said *Fahrenheit 451* is not a book about censorship. Write an essay refuting **or** agreeing with that claim using specific evidence from the novel and the article.

2. Compare and contrast Plato’s “The Parable of the Cave” with *Fahrenheit 451* or compare and contrast *Fahrenheit 451* with another dystopian novel or film.

3. Compare and contrast Montag and Beatty. How are they alike and how are they different in terms of their worldview, their motivation, and their moral character?

4. Write an analysis of one of the characters listed: Montag, Mildred, Beatty, or the Mechanical Hound. Discuss their physical appearance, their background, describe and analyze the relationships he, she, or it has in the novel, and discuss the struggle or conflict they have or the evil they inflict on others.

5. *Fahrenheit 451* is a dystopian novel. Discuss why it is classified as one through the plot, characters, symbols, and the dystopian control(s) used in the novel.

6. Discuss how Ray Bradbury uses ethos, pathos, and/or logos to build an argument to persuade the audience that technology is indeed taking over our lives and/or that books and reading are important. Think about the characters he has constructed and their thoughts/actions to help in your analysis.

Essay Guidelines and Writer Checklist

* Utilize the MLA format. You may find information regarding the format at: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
* Please use Times New Roman 12 point font, double space your entire essay including your works cited sheet, and do not forget to include your last name and page numbers in the header
* Your essay should have an original, interesting, and appropriate title
* Be sure to ask yourself the following questions prior to turning in your essay:
1. Is the main idea of your paper clearly stated?
2. Is the introductory paragraph interesting? Does it make the reader want to keep on reading?
3. Does each body paragraph have a clear topic sentence that is related to the main idea of the essay?
4. Does each body paragraph include specific information from the text (including quoted evidence from the text) that supports the topic sentence?
5. Is there a clear plan for the order of the body paragraphs (i.e., order of importance, chronology in the story, etc.)?
6. Does each body paragraph transition smoothly to the next?
7. Is the main idea of the essay restated (strategic repetition) in different words? Are the supporting ideas summarized succinctly and clearly?
8. Is the concluding paragraph interesting? Does it leave an impression on the reader?
9. Is any important material left unsaid? Is any material repetitious and unnecessary?
10. Has the writer tried to incorporate “voice” in the essay so that it has his/her distinctive mark? Are there changes needed in word choice, sentence length and structure, etc.?
11. Are the quotations properly cited?
12. Has the essay been proofread for spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.