

Honors English 10 – Summer Reading Assignment 2011

All Blake students entering Honors English 10 in the fall will be expected to have completed the assigned reading and correlating assignments. Completed assignments are due the second day of school, August 30, 2011.

Required Text:

***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury**

This novella is available at local libraries and area book stores; you can pick up a used copy online at half.com or amazon.com, or at the Wheaton Library. If you choose not to purchase your own copy, a limited number will be available through the English Department. Remember that the staff does not work during the summer; if you would like to borrow a copy, you can pick it up during exam week in the English Office.

Please understand that this book is only available during this time. If you do not stop by during exam week to check out the book, the office staff will not be able to access the book for you.

A Note about *Fahrenheit 451*:

Fahrenheit 451 is science fiction and takes place in the future. Therefore, some of the technology and vocabulary will be foreign to you. You'll need to make an extra effort to visualize what's happening.

This text is highly figurative; savor the richness of the language. It is full of imagery, metaphors, and allusions. If you are unsure of an allusion or metaphor and what it means, take time to understand it. Look up the allusions. Visualize the images. These strategies will help you understand more of Bradbury's message, thus making you an effective reader who is better able to address the depth of this exceptional novella.

Required Assignments:

All assignments should be typed or neatly handwritten.

1. Before reading, define the words from *Fahrenheit 451* on the attached vocabulary list. As you read, notice when and how the words are used in the text; write a sentence from the novella in which you find each word (one sentence for each word) and cite the page number.
2. Review the definition of censorship copied from *Wikipedia* below:

Censorship is the suppression of speech or deletion of communicative material which may be considered objectionable, harmful, sensitive, or inconvenient to the government or media organizations as determined by a censor.

- **Moral censorship** is the removal of materials that are obscene or otherwise morally questionable. Pornography, for example, is often censored under this rationale.
- **Military censorship** is the process of keeping military intelligence and tactics confidential and away from the enemy. This is used to counter espionage, which is the process of gleaning military information. Very often, militaries will also attempt to suppress politically inconvenient information even if that information has no actual intelligence value.
- **Political censorship** occurs when governments hold back information from their citizens. The logic is to exert control over the populace and prevent free expression that might foment rebellion.
- **Religious censorship** is the means by which any material objectionable to a certain faith is removed. This often involves a dominant religion forcing limitations on less prevalent ones. Alternatively, one religion may shun the works of another when they believe the content is not appropriate for their faith.
- **Corporate censorship** is the process by which editors in corporate media outlets intervene to halt the publishing of information that portrays their business or business partners in a negative light.¹

3. Collect 10 significant and substantial passages from the text that relate to the definition of censorship, then transcribe each of the entire passages (don't forget page citation). The passage should be any chunk of relevant text that connects to the definition.
4. For each passage, write a journal explaining how or why you feel the passage is significant.

¹ "Censorship." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 29 May 2009, 13:00 UTC. 29 May 2009 <<http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Censorship&oldid=293087857>>.

Suggestion:

While you are only required to read *Fahrenheit 451*, you will find it to your advantage to read as much as possible over the summer. You should certainly read books you enjoy, but also you should read books that are challenging for you. This will better prepare you for Honors English 10 and for the increasingly challenging texts you will read in the coming year. The more you read, the more fluent you become in the English language.

A Note About SparkNotes and Cliff's Notes

As students, you are learning how to read not only for understanding, but also for analysis. If you refer to SparkNotes, Cliff's Notes, or other such websites for analysis, you are doing a disservice to yourself, making future reading assignments and writing assignments very difficult. Give yourself a chance to practice and hone your own skills.

Please be aware that your teachers are intimately acquainted with these websites, and we will not be fooled. **You will be graded on your summer reading assignments. If you do not do them yourself, or it is evident that you did not read, you will receive a zero.**

Vocabulary for *Fahrenheit 451*:

Please be sure to study the definitions of the following words. There will be a vocabulary assessment on these words and their definitions.

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| 1. Waft | 14. Saccharine |
| 2. Refract | 15. Profusion |
| 3. Imperceptible | 16. Insidious |
| 4. Mausoleum | 17. Discourse |
| 5. Olfactory | 18. Beatific |
| 6. Proboscis | 19. Perfunctory |
| 7. Proclivity | 20. Phosphorescence |
| 8. Fathom | 21. Penance |
| 9. Centrifuge | 22. Incriminate |
| 10. Cacophony | 23. Converge |
| 11. Feign | 24. Scythe |
| 12. Cadence | 25. Convoluted |
| 13. Suffuse | 26. Incessantly |

For more information on summer reading, please visit:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/readinglists/>