

# English 10 Honors

## *Fahrenheit 451* Summer Reading Assignment

Name: TYPE YOUR FULL NAME HERE

Name of freshman English teacher: TYPE NAME HERE

### Directions:

1. Make a copy of this document to save it in your Google Drive
2. Add your first and last name to the title of the document.
3. Add your name to the top in the highlighted portion.
4. Read Harold Bloom’s introduction to *Fahrenheit 451*.
5. Read the short story, “The Pedestrian” by Ray Bradbury.
6. Read *Fahrenheit 451* in its entirety.
7. Then complete the following assignment.

### Please Read Before You Begin

The purpose of this pre-AP course is to improve three core skills: close reading, critical thinking, and persuasive writing. In this course, we will integrate our literary analysis skills with an understanding of the rhetorical dimensions of texts, such as the author’s purpose, the audience, and the occasion. In other words, to interpret a text we must do the hard work to better understand the world from which that text emerges and think critically about our own context. This summer reading assignment is meant to be a preview of the kind of critical work we will do this year. The assignment is also an opportunity for your teacher to see a sample of your writing.

**You should be prepared to submit this assignment on the first day of class.**

### PART I-Life in *Fahrenheit*, Life in America

*Fahrenheit 451* is a work of science fiction. Unlike fantasy, science fiction describes things that are plausible, based on the best scientific knowledge at the time. Science fiction often considers the effect that technology might have on society. In *Fahrenheit 451*, Bradbury speculates that things intended to make life easier and more pleasant—cars, mass media—may actually rob people of the ability to think and relate to one another. Though it was published in 1953, Bradbury imagined a world that bears some resemblance to life in America today.

**Examine eight features of life that are present in the novel and in our society today.** Bullet at least **three examples in each box**. In other words, three specific examples from the novel, three examples from the short story, and three examples witnessed in today’s society.

While some aspects of the novel could work well for multiple places, each example should be unique. Please do not write the same example from the text for multiple boxes. You must include a page reference for each example drawn from *Fahrenheit*.

→ *Insufficient example: Handymen save people.*

→ Quality example: Mildred is saved from her overdose by two handymen who are sent to “clean up the problem” (24).

Society characterized by...	Examples from <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Examples from “The Pedestrian”	Examples from life in America today
1. The fast pace of life / short attention spans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>

2. Violence against / diminished value of human life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
3. Preoccupation with shallow entertainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
4. Diminished value for independent and critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
5. Diminished value for family life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
6. Censorship of the media and other information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
7. Increased government control and decreased freedom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>
8. Individuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> <li>● -</li> </ul>

### PART II: Multiple Choice Exam

Multiple choice exam covering Harold Bloom's introduction to *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury's "The Pedestrian" and *Fahrenheit 451*. Exam will be given around the third week of the first quarter.