

Essay Topics—*Fahrenheit 451*

Directions: After reading and annotating your novel, choose one topic to develop into a full essay. Be sure to develop a clear thesis statement with supporting topic sentences that includes related details and textual evidence from the book and/or the related readings.

1. Choose one important character in the novel and write a character analysis that includes appearance, actions, ideas, manner, reactions of others to the character, and feelings of the character throughout the novel. Do the character's feelings or ideals change? Why is this character important to the novel? How well does this character fit into a utopian and dystopian society?
2. Compare and contrast the characters of Mildred and Clarisse. How is one a threat to the stability of the ideas presented in *Fahrenheit 451* and the other an ideal example of a *Fahrenheit 451* character? How have each of these characters been influenced?
3. Explain how the titles of the three parts of the book are significant to the general action that occurs within each part.
4. What messages or themes is Ray Bradbury trying to impart on the audience? What things in society is he commenting on? Could this type of society really exist? Why or why not?
5. Discuss the dual image of fire in the novel.
6. Examine the psychological complexity of Captain Beatty. Account for how knowledge of books, while also accounting for his desire to burn them.