

Mandala Activity—*Fahrenheit 451*

Mandala is a Sanskrit word meaning circle. In the Hindu and Buddhist regions, the mandala is a sacred form that consists of a square with four gates shaped like a “T” containing a circle as the center. Mandalas are concentric diagrams that have spiritual and ritual significance in various religions and are used for establishing a sacred space to aid in meditation. The role of the Mandala in this novel is to allow you, the reader, to connect what you have learned from this book and connect it symbolically to the world around you and/or what you have learned about the human condition. You will see some examples of Mandalas from various cultures. Pay close attention to the structure and the symbolic meaning of the shapes and colors.

Directions: You are to construct a Mandala that includes symbols, motifs, and themes from the novel in the design. You may use art in conjunction with words in the design of your Mandala. Your Mandala may be drawn on paper or constructed in any other medium of your choosing.



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Step 1:

- Brainstorm a list of the symbols from the novel
- List the motifs from the novel
- List at least four themes from the novel

Symbols	Motifs	Themes

Step 2:

- Determine how the symbols would translate into art
- Determine how the motifs would translate into art
- Determine how the themes would translate into art
- Limit the use of actual words in the Mandala

Symbol	Art	Motifs	Art	Themes	Art

Step 3:

- Design your Mandala
- Choose two symbols
- Choose two motifs
- Choose one theme
- Include the four gates shaped like a “T”
- Include a circle at the center of your design
- The design must be colored or painted

Step 4:

- The purpose of the Mandala assignment is to take the symbols, motifs, and theme and relate them to the human condition and/or the world around you.
- Be creative in the design. You may be linear or abstract in your design as long as the three aspects of the assignment are represented.

Step 5:

- Write a paragraph for the interpretation of the symbols and provide textual evidence to support your analysis.
- Write a paragraph for the interpretation of the motifs and provide textual evidence to support your analysis.
- Write a paragraph for the theme and provide textual evidence to support your analysis.

DUE DATE _____

Mandala Grading Rubric—*Fahrenheit 451*

Mandala: _____ grade

	-1 (60)	1 (65)	+1 (68)	-2 (70)	2 (75)	+2 (78)	-3 (80)	3 (85)	+3 (88)	-4 (90)	4 (95)	+4 (98)
Symbol 1												
Symbol 2												
Motif 1												
Motif 2												
Theme												

Paragraphs: _____ grade

	-1 (60)	1 (65)	+1 (68)	-2 (70)	2 (75)	+2 (78)	-3 (80)	3 (85)	+3 (88)	-4 (90)	4 (95)	+4 (98)
Symbol Paragraph												
Symbol Textual Evidence												
Motif Paragraph												
Motif Textual Evidence												
Theme Paragraph												
Theme Textual Evidence												

Mandala grade _____ + Paragraphs grade _____ = _____

Total _____ /2 = _____ total grade

Comments: