

Red Bank Regional High School English II CP – Summer Reading Assignment

These questions are due THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, typed and double spaced.

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Answer each question with a full paragraph. Be sure to use quotations and specific examples from the novel in your answers.

1. In what ways does Fahrenheit 451's society resemble our modern America? Do you think our society could become like the novel's? Why? Is this already happening? How?
2. Consider the character of Clarisse: What is her function in the novel, and why does Bradbury remove her so quickly? How does she contrast with Montag's wife Mildred, and how might this influence Montag's later actions?
3. How does Montag respond to Beatty's attempt to arrest him? Is this response justified? Why or why not?
4. Montag encounters several texts as he explores the world of books, including Shakespeare's works, the poem "Dover Beach" by Matthew Arnold, and the Bible. What is the significance of each of these texts? Why does Bradbury allude to these particular works? Consider the context in which Montag encounters them in your answer.
5. Fire takes on many different meanings in Bradbury's book, both positive and negative. Find and explain an example of each – one from before Montag leaves the firemen and the other from after his arrest. Then consider the final fire image, the mythical Phoenix. How, and why, has fire transformed as a symbol by the novel's end?

The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

How does Bobby's experience as a teen parent differ from the way teen pregnancy and teen parenting are depicted in the media and popular culture (think of MTV's *16 and Pregnant*, or

Answer the question below in the form of a one-page (double spaced) essay. Include an introduction (with a thesis statement) and conclusion with two or three supporting body paragraphs.

Juno, etc...)?

Your multi-paragraph response should include a clear thesis statement that should express your position. Each supporting body paragraph should give a reason that supports your position and is backed up with specific examples from the novel. Please cite specific passages from the text and include page numbers.