Part 2: Reading Journal

For each of the three sections of the text, choose five of the questions below and respond to them in a page-long entry in your notebook. This means that you will have 15 pages in total by the time you finish reading the novel.

Your entries will be assessed by the degree to which you engage thoughtfully with each question. This is your chance to be reflective and creative as you respond to various aspects of the text.

You will need a spiral or marble notebook for this portion of the assignment. Pages must be at least 8½” by 11” in size.

Journal Questions:

1. Make a connection (text-to-self). Explain what is happening in the book and describe the personal connection you have made. What experiences from your life connect to the text? What do you think and feel about the text (characters, conflicts, settings, themes, etc.)?

2. Make a connection (text-to-world). What current events, in the United States or around the world, connect to the ideas of the novel? How does the text reflect what is happening, culturally/politically/socially, around the world? When appropriate, use additional resources (books, the Internet) to illustrate the connection.

3. Make a connection (text-to-text). What books or stories have you read that connect to Fahrenheit 451? Do you see similarities in characters, conflicts, settings, or themes? Draw specific connections between texts and explain them thoroughly.

4. Consider the point of view in this section. What other voices could tell this section of the story? Choose a character from the novel, and imagine what this section would be like if he or she were the narrator.

5. Choose one of the passages that you selected for Part 1 (Post-its/Annotations). Discuss the relevance of the passage. In what ways is this passage important? How can this passage be used to discuss the novel as a whole?

6. Conduct research on one of the authors and texts alluded to in this section of the novel. Who was the author? What was the text about? Why do you suppose Bradbury alluded to this text in this section?

7. Compare two characters from this section. How are they similar? How are they different? What is Bradbury’s purpose for including these characters in this section?

8. As a reader, what do you admire about Bradbury’s novel? What could you criticize? Comment on the strengths and weakness of Bradbury’s characterization, plot development, and style.

9. How does Ray Bradbury address the notion of gender roles in this section of the novel? Do you feel that characters of different genders are treated equally? Are they treated fairly? Discuss Bradbury’s depiction of male and female characters in the text.

10. If you had to persuade someone else to read this book, what would you say? Use specific details from this section of the text to make a persuasive argument to someone that they should read this book.
Welcome to English 9-300!

Hello, future 9-300 students! I hope you are excited about starting your high school experience. You are about to start a new chapter (pun intended!) of your lives and you should feel excited about the possibilities ahead of you. Now, in order for you to prepare for next year, you will complete an assignment on Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451, a dystopian novel that examines a bleak future where literature is outlawed. According to Simon and Schuster, the novel traces the journey of Guy Montag, who lives in a society where “television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, and firemen start fires rather than put them out.” As you read the novel, you will complete the assignment outlined in this pamphlet.

**THIS ASSIGNMENT WILL COUNT AS A TEST/ESSAY/PROJECT GRADE***

**Contact Mr. MacDougal with questions (dmacdougal@bayshoreschools.org)**

### Part 1: Annotation/Post-it Notes

As you read, use post-it notes to identify and respond to five passages in each section of the text (fifteen passages in total).

On your post-it notes, you should write annotations/notes that address all of the following concerns: setting, conflict, characterization, style, and theme. Use the questions provided to help you develop your notes.

#### Questions to Consider:

**Setting:**
Why is the setting important in this passage? To what extent does the setting shape the characters, conflicts, and themes developed in this passage?

**Conflict:**
What conflicts arise in this passage? Are the conflicts internal or external? Why are they important?

**Characterization:**
How does the author depict a character in this passage? On what details does the author focus? How does this characterization help us to understand the novel?

**Style:**
What do you notice about the author’s style in this passage? Are the sentences long or short? Rhythmic or abrupt? Are there examples of figurative language or imagery? What effect does this have on the passage?

**Theme:**
What themes are developed in this passage? How are these ideas developed? How is this theme important in the novel?

***Write your notes directly on the post-it***

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**Example Annotation with Post-It (from The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde):**

**Passage:** “The street shone out in contrast to its dingy neighborhood, like a forest in a fire;”

**Setting:**
Dr. Jekyll's house is on a pretty street in the middle of a run down area. In this passage, Jekyll’s house is introduced for the first time, and it is an important focus for rest of the novella. The description in this passage displays the motif of contrasting appearances and adds to the theme of duality that appears throughout the text.