

Summer Reading 2024 for **Advanced English 9**

Students taking Advanced English 9 in the fall must read three books during the summer before the start of ninth grade. **Students should hand write these assignments using pen or pencil. They should not be typed.**

Book #1: For all advanced students, the required novel is *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. You will participate in a fishbowl discussion at the end of week 1 of school. Please complete the *Fahrenheit 451* reading guide (pages 2-7 of this document) to prepare for this discussion (further instruction on the discussion itself will take place the first days of school). This reading guide is due on the second day of school.

Book #2: Choose a second book from the non-fiction list below and complete the summer reading worksheet assignment (pages 8-9 of this document). Your handwritten document will be collected on the second day of school.

<i>Bad Boy: A Memoir</i>	Walter Dean Myers	Autobiography, 2002
<i>The Other Side of the River</i>	Alex Kotlowitz	Non-fiction, 1999
<i>Neither Wolf nor Dog</i>	Kent Nerburn	Native American, 2002
<i>No Excuses</i>	Derrick Coleman Jr.	Autobiography, 2015

Book #3: For your third book, you will read Sandra Benitez's *The Weight of All Things*. An in-class essay will be given on the fourth day of school for this book. Use the prompts and rubric (page 10 of this document) to help you prepare for this assessment.

Name: _____

Directions: Answer the questions below completely and thoughtfully as well as **in complete sentences**.

“Part I: The Hearth and the Salamander”

1. What do the “firemen” do for a living?
2. In the opening scene, how are books compared to birds?
3. Who does Montag meet on the way home?
4. During his conversation, Montag says, “You never wash it off completely.” What is he referring to?
5. What could Montag’s statement mean symbolically?
6. Why do you think that Bradbury would introduce Clarisse before Montag’s wife, Mildred?
7. Why does Mildred need help when Montag gets home?
8. Describe the help that she receives. What kind of help is it?

9. Is there anything unusual about the way the two men go about helping Mildred? How is it unusual?

10. How is life in Montag's house very different from that of Clarisse's house?

11. How does Mildred react after she wakes up from her previous night's experience?

12. What does Mildred do all day?

13. Describe the setup of Montag's TV room.

14. How is Clarisse different than Mildred?

15. What is the mechanical hound?

16. What is the mechanical hound's purpose?

17. What could the mechanical hound symbolize?

18. What is the hound's reaction to Montag?

19. Why does society consider Clarisse “anti-social”?

20. What does that say about this society?

“Part II: The Sieve and the Sand”

1. In the beginning of “Part II: The Sieve and the Sand,” Montag remembers Clarisse. Explain his comments about her.

2. Why is Mildred worried about being caught with the books?

3. What does this tell you of her character?

4. What is the literal meaning of the title of Part II?

5. What is the symbolic or figurative meaning of the title in Part II?

6. What is the importance of the dentifrice commercial? (What is being contrasted? Why? Does the commercial exemplify some aspect of society?)

7. Explain why Montag goes to see Faber.

8. What does Faber tell Montag about the books?

9. What are the three things Faber says are missing from society?

10. Tell how each of the ideas you listed above is indeed missing from the society in *Fahrenheit 451*.

11. How does Faber define the job of firemen?

12. How does this differ from Beatty's definition of the firemen?

13. Why do the two characters have different definitions?

14. Explain Faber's statement: "Montag, go home...Why waste your final hours racing about your cage denying you're a squirrel."

15. Describe the device Faber provides for Montag to help him with Captain Beatty.

16. Faber considers himself a coward. Why does he consider himself a coward?

17. Do you think Faber is a coward? Support with evidence.

“Part III: Burning Light”

1. Why do you think Mildred turns Montag in?
2. What feelings does Montag have about the burning of his house?
3. What thoughts does Montag have about Beatty after he murders him?
4. Do you think that Beatty wanted to die? Explain.
5. How does Montag get out of the city?
6. How do the wanderers “become” books?
7. Why do the police stop chasing Montag?
8. What book of the Bible does Montag decide to become?
10. Why does he decide to become this book?
11. What happens to Montag’s city?

12. In a paragraph, reflect: What is the lesson or moral that Bradbury wanted to convey? Explain with support.

13. In a paragraph, reflect: What themes arise in this book? How do you know?

Name: _____

Advanced English 9

**Summer Reading
Nonfiction Book Assignment**

Directions: Answer the questions below. You should be concise but accurate in your responses. *All answers should be written in complete sentences.*

1. Identify the setting of the novel with specific details. How does the setting affect the mood of the story?

2. Identify 3-4 main characters throughout the novel. Provide a 3-4 sentence description of each character.

3. Identify 3-4 conflicts that appear throughout the novel. Provide a 3-4 sentence description of each conflict.

4. Identify the point of view that the story is told. How do you know it is told from this perspective?
5. Identify one quotation that you found to be powerful, citing the page number. Why did you find it powerful?
6. Identify 6-7 major plot points and explain their significance in the novel in 2-3 sentences.
7. Identify 3-4 major themes throughout the novel. Provide a 3-4 sentence description of each theme.
8. Write a paragraph that describes your reactions to the novel. Did you like it? Why or why not? Be sure to include a topic sentence, 3 supports, 2 follow up sentences per support, and a concluding sentence for a total of 9-12 sentences.

Name: _____

Fiction Book Assignment: *The Weight of All Things*

Directions: On the fourth day of school, you will be assigned one of the prompts below. You will write a three-paragraph essay about *The Weight of All Things* using the rubric as a checklist. You will need evidence (including direct quotations) and analysis to prove your claim in the topic sentence. **You should prepare for all of the questions. You will not know which question you will write about until you walk into class.** On the day of the essay, you will only be allowed your book, a pencil/pen, and this sheet—**nothing else**. You must **turn in this rubric with your essay**.

1. What images or symbols appeared throughout the book? When did they appear, and how are they significant?

Potential thesis: _____

2. What key social issue (racism, tradition, poverty) or concept (courage, personal growth, trust) did the author address?

Potential thesis: _____

3. Compare (examine the similarities) OR contrast (examine the differences) of two of the characters in this book.

Potential thesis: _____

Paragraph/Section	Comments	Points
Introduction that has the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● General introductory sentence with author's name and title of the novel● Context for novel and argument● A quality thesis statement (3 part thesis, title, author, parallelism, clear)		____/5
Body Paragraph #1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A strong topic sentence connected to thesis with transition● Evidence, including direct quotation(s)● Analysis of evidence, relating back to topic sentence sentences● Clear expression, accurate information● Effective concluding sentence		____/10
Conclusion paragraph: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rephrased thesis● Brief summary of the main points● A final, quality sentence of observation/significance		____/5
Good mechanics that include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Third person● Present verb tense● Full sentences (no fragments/comma splices)● Varied structure● Accurate word choices, effective expression● Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar		____/5

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