

Fahrenheit 451: The Sieve and the Sand

1. Why won't Montag let Mildred shoo the dog away from the door?
2. According to Mildred, books "aren't real." Who are the real people in her opinion?
3. Who is the White Clown?
4. Who is Faber?
5. Why can't Montag decide which book to turn in to Captain Beatty?
6. Describe the story from Montag's childhood about the sieve and the sand.
7. What does the sieve symbolize? What does the sand symbolize?
8. What is Denham's Dentifrice?
9. According to Faber, what has television done to the image of Christ?
10. Why does Faber consider himself a coward?
11. What does Faber mean when he asks "What knocked the torch out of your hands?"
12. According to Faber, why are books hated and feared?
13. According to Faber, what is the difference between books and TV?
14. According to Faber, what three things are needed in order for books to be useful?
15. How does Montag convince Faber to help him?
16. How do Faber and Montag remain in contact after Montag leaves the apartment?
17. What does Faber read to Montag? Why is it an appropriate selection at this point in the story?
18. Describe Mrs. Phelps and Mrs. Bowles.
19. After he turns off the TV walls, what does Montag force the women to do?
20. Why do the women say Winston Noble was such a fine presidential candidate?
21. How does Mrs. Bowles feel about children? How do you know?
22. How do the women react when Montag displays a book? How does Faber react?
23. How does Mrs. Phelps react to the poem Montag reads? Why?
24. Why does Montag burn the book?
25. Captain Beatty claims he had a dream about his argument with Montag. Describe it.
26. There is a fire alarm, and Beatty does something he doesn't usually do. What?
27. Whose house have the firemen been called to burn?

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Analysis/Evaluation/Creation

- I. Write: You are Montag. You have been arrested for reading forbidden books. Your jailers have provided you pencil and paper to write your “confession,” but you decide instead to write letters to the women who represent the different aspects of your life: Mildred and Clarisse. Your letters should illustrate that you understand the story (at least to page 110), the characters, and the changes Montag has gone through. Write each letter on a separate page.
- II. Write Back: On the back of the pages where you wrote the letters to Mildred and Clarisse, write the responses to Montag’s letters, one from Mildred and one from Clarisse. Your letters should illustrate your understanding of the characters and their motivations.
- III. Using the space below, compare and contrast Beatty and Faber. Each of these characters gives Montag a “lecture” that helps explain how the world of *Fahrenheit 451* got to be the way it is. Use quotations from each lecture to support your comparisons and contrasts.

Beatty (lecture: pp. 54-62)

Faber (lecture: pp. 82-88)

Adjectives that describe him: _____

Adjectives that describe him: _____

Quotes: _____

Quotes: _____

How are Beatty and Faber alike? _____

How are Beatty and Faber different? _____
