

**DePaul College Prep**  
Summer Reading 2019: IB English A: Literature

Dear IB English A: Literature students (Juniors):

One of the requirements of all students to achieve the highest levels of success from the start of the year is summer reading. We believe in this practice, as it has been shown to continue development of reading comprehension skills, build vocabulary, and broaden reading inventory necessary for the college preparation process. In IB English A: Literature, you will learn to read like a literary scholar, but **why should we even study literature?** In preparation for your first year of IB English A: Literature, you will read *Fahrenheit 451* by American author and screenwriter, Ray Bradbury, wherein he takes a stance on this question.

**Responsibilities:**

1. Read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.
2. Write an essay on **one** of the topics below (**due the first day of class**).
3. Be prepared to take a short reading comprehension quiz the first day of class.

**Essay:**

In order to help you focus and think more clearly about the novel, you will write **one essay**. The essay should be **at least three pages** typed (although the strongest essays will be longer). Write a multi-paragraph essay on any aspect of the novel that you choose, using your knowledge of writing structure, language use, and topic development. Consider this assignment a “pre-test” that will demonstrate what you already know so that I will know how to guide you to grow this year. **Do your best so that I know what you are capable of.**

In *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury begs the reader to examine the question: *Why is literature important?* How does Bradbury answer this question with *Fahrenheit 451*? Choose **one** of the following prompts:

1. **Characterization:** Analyze the way Bradbury develops the main character throughout the novel. How does Bradbury use character development to answer the question: *Why is literature important?*
2. **Symbolism:** Analyze the way Bradbury uses one or multiple symbols throughout the novel. How does Bradbury use one or multiple symbols to answer the question: *Why is literature important?*
3. **Motifs:** Analyze the way Bradbury uses motifs in the novel. How does Bradbury use motifs to answer the question: *Why is literature important?*

Follow these guidelines:

- Follow MLA guidelines (proper heading and header, Times New Roman, 12 point font, one inch margins, double spaced). As a guide for proper MLA formatting, visit: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
- Establish a clear thesis.
- Body paragraphs should follow the traditional paradigm: topic sentence, evidence (support from the novel), and analysis.
- Use proper parenthetical documentation when paraphrasing or quoting directly: author and page number (Bradbury 25).
- Do **not** access SparkNotes, CliffsNotes, or anyone else’s notes! I want to see what you think, and I want to get a valid look at your writing and critical thinking ability without using outside resources.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [hbojorges@depaulprep.org](mailto:hbojorges@depaulprep.org). Enjoy the novel and have a wonderful summer break!

Sincerely, Ms. Bojorges