

Unit 2: The Novel**Fahrenheit 451 Double-Entry Journal**

“You don’t need to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them.” –Ray Bradbury

Assignment Purpose:

While reading *Fahrenheit 451*, you will keep a journal, or record, of your journey through it. A double-entry journal is a great way to keep a record of your thoughts and reactions to what you’re reading, and it can be used as a springboard for class discussions.

Double-entry Journal Formatting & Content Requirements:

You are in charge of your own personal journal. You will decide what to write, but there are three requirements:

1. Clearly label each entry with the page range and date. (Ex: 10/19, pp. 3-top of 21)
2. For each day’s reading, you must have at least three entries.
3. Write in your own (school appropriate) voice. Interact with the story and the characters in it!

Grading: Grades will be based on the thoroughness of your responses to the text in addition to the formatting and content requirements listed above. Your journal should demonstrate that you are actively engaging with the text and you are putting forth your best effort. **Journals will be collected three times (after we finish each of the three parts of the book), and each collection will be worth a quiz grade of 100 points.**

To create your double-entry journal: fold a sheet of loose-leaf paper in half length-wise. Label the left-hand column “From the Text” and the right-hand column “My Thoughts.” See the table below for what to write in each column.

From the Text	My Thoughts
<p><i>On this side of the journal, you will record exactly what it is that is written in the text that caught your attention. You may use ellipses (...) if necessary.</i></p> <p><i>Be sure to indicate the page from which your quote was taken.</i></p>	<p><i>On this side of the journal, write down what it is you thought when you read the selection of text you wrote down in the opposite column.</i></p>

Some suggestions for “My Thoughts:”

- ✓ Describe and explain your **reactions** to a character, event, or idea you confronted in your reading.
- ✓ Ask **questions** about the section you read either for clarification or analysis. Has anything in that section caused you confusion? Disbelief? Anger? Ask one of the characters in the book a question, or ask the author a question! Because you’ll be discussing your notes, you can (and should) come up with questions to ask your classmates about the reading.
- ✓ **Pretend** you are one of the characters in the book. Get inside that character’s mind. Tell how the character feels about him/her-self, about other characters, or about the situation in the section you’re reading.
- ✓ **Relate** something in the book, either a character or an event, to something outside of the book. You could make personal **connections**, connections to other books, connections to something in history or the present time, or connections to movies/films.
- ✓ Make **predictions** about what will happen next or make an **inference** about a character’s actions/motivations.
- ✓ **Comment on the author’s style.** How does it help convey the author’s tone toward the subject? Does it affect the way you view the subject? How does the language make you feel (mood)?
- ✓ **Identify a message (theme)** the author is trying to send using the story. Why did the author write this book?