English 10 • FAHRENHEIT 451 • Overview Notes & Key Study Points

Suggestions for Review

- ☐ Review the story of the Phoenix
- ☐ Why is 451° F significant?
- ☐ **CHARACTERS:** Guy Montag, Mildred Montag, Clarisse McClellan, Captain Beatty, Faber
- ☐ What is author's purpose? Why did Ray Bradbury write this novel? Why did he use a futuristic science fiction setting?
- ☐ What is the difference between denotation and connotation? What is the connotation of the word "anti-social" in Fahrenheit 451?
- ☐ Character philosophies on life and happiness
- ☐ **SYMBOLISM:** books, Mechanical Hound, Phoenix, mirrors, sand and the sieve, salamander, hearth
- ☐ Match characters to their quotes
- ☐ Chronology of events
- ☐ **THEMES:** censorship, government control, "given" freedoms, love, influence of TV, family
- ☐ Bradbury predictions
- ☐ **VOCABULARY** (words used in a sentence, reader asked "This word most likely means…")

Vocabulary

- 📖 CACOPHONY – *harsh sound, dissonance*
- 📖 INSIDIOUS – *treacherous or dangerous in a secret sort of way*
- 📖 MELANCHOLY – *depression of spirits*
- 📖 ODIOUS – *deserving hate or contempt*
- 📖 PEDANT – *a person who is excessively concerned with details and rules or with displaying academic learning.*
- 📖 PERFUNCTORILY – *in a manner displaying little interest or care; routine*
- 📖 PROCLIVITY – *inclination, tendency*
- 📖 PROFUSION – *extravagant abundance*
- 📖 SACCHARINE – *overly sweet attitude*
- 📖 STRATUM – *a horizontal layer*

Test Format

- ▪ 60 TOTAL QUESTIONS on Achievement Series bubble sheet including:
- ▪ 20 MC (MULTIPLE CHOICE) QUESTIONS about reading comprehension questions *(your thorough, completed summaries should be your best resource for plot-related questions!)*
- ▪ 6 MC QUESTIONS about author's purpose, characters' purposes *(why was this character in the book?)*, connotation v. denotation, cause and effect, theme
- ▪ 5 MC QUESTIONS about characters' philosophies on life
- ▪ 5 MC QUESTIONS about symbolism
- ▪ 5 QUESTIONS MATCHING characters to quotes
- ▪ 5 QUESTIONS MATCHING events to their chronology
- ▪ 5 TRUE OR FALSE QUESTIONS about Ray Bradbury's predictions for the future
- ▪ 9 MC QUESTIONS about vocabulary

General Test-taking Tips

- 💡 READ the whole question before you look at the answers.
- 💡 COME UP WITH the answer in your head before looking at the possible answers; this way the choices given won't throw you off or trick you.
- 💡 READ all the choices before choosing your answer.
- 💡 ELIMINATE answers you know aren't right.
- 💡 USE the test to defeat the test. Oftentimes the wording in questions and answers will provide clues for other questions on the same exam. Be savvy!
- 💡 For questions where you have no clue, take an educated GUESS. On a multiple choice test, a blank answer is always a wrong answer.