

# Fahrenheit 451

by Ray Bradbury

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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Pages are ordered for double-sided printing.

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#### About the Pre-Reading Activity

Open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade. Students preview 20 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

#### About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz

Use after reading, or skip. The same words appear in excerpts from the text.

**Practice words:** accompany, censor, cite, compose, critic, desolate, dismay, displace, environment, evaluate, fugitive, function, melancholy, mortal, oblivion, perish, recite, simultaneous, trace (2)



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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	C
3	B
4	A
5	A
6	B
7	C
8	A
9	A
10	A
11	C
12	A
13	B
14	C
15	C
16	B
17	B
18	C
19	B
20	A

# Vocabulary Preview

## Fahrenheit 451

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

*Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.*

1. Will you **accompany** her to the party?
  - A. follow
  - B. precede
  - C. go with
2. The performer chose *Bombay* as a good word to rhyme with *today*, but India's Central Board of Film Certification censored the word and replaced it with a beep.
  - A. improved
  - B. reinforced
  - C. removed
3. She **cited** the EPA report to make her point.
  - A. refuted (proved false)
  - B. quoted
  - C. asked about
4. The group is **composed** of students who live in the same apartment building.
  - A. made up
  - B. calmed
  - C. written
5. The literary **critic** admired the novel's complex characters and insightful exploration of human nature.
  - A. an expert evaluator
  - B. a writer of novels
  - C. someone who reads a lot
6. The armies fought over the region for years and **desolated** it in the process.
  - A. took control of
  - B. destroyed
  - C. thoroughly understood
7. Hope was replaced by **dismay**.
  - A. satisfaction
  - B. faith
  - C. sorrow
8. Many people were **displaced** by the hurricane.
  - A. forced to move
  - B. put to work
  - C. injured
9. We create a **supportive environment** where it's safe to take chances.
  - A. setting
  - B. help desk
  - C. insurance policy
10. I'm **evaluating** job options.
  - A. considering
  - B. creating
  - C. avoiding
11. The **fugitive** fled to Venezuela.
  - A. person on vacation
  - B. rebel
  - C. person running from the law

12. My brain does not function as well when I'm under stress.
- A. work
  - B. feel
  - C. have fun
13. This weather makes me melancholy. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
  - B. sad
  - C. feel like singing
14. In the story, she was neither a mortal nor a god. She was a demi-god.
- A. type of bird
  - B. lucky survivor
  - C. human
15. At that time, Shakespeare's works came close to fading into oblivion.
- A. a state of being censored
  - B. a state of high controversy
  - C. a state of being forgotten
16. We can work together or perish separately.
- A. work
  - B. die
  - C. fail
17. The children recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- A. memorized
  - B. said aloud
  - C. listened to
18. The store provides shoppers with a simultaneous art/music experience.
- A. consecutive
  - B. alternating
  - C. at the same time
19. They traced the illnesses back to a single restaurant.
- A. pushed
  - B. followed
  - C. turned
20. She used a stick to trace a mysterious symbol on the sand.
- A. draw
  - B. erase
  - C. uncover

## Vocabulary in Context

### Fahrenheit 451

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

- 1 It [the mechanical hound] doesn't like or dislike. It just '**functions**'.
  - A. works
  - B. exists
  - C. breaks
- 2 ...and suddenly the odor of kerosene made him vomit. Mildred came in, humming. She was surprised. "Why'd you do that?" He looked with **dismay** at the floor. "We burned an old woman with her books."
  - A. shame
  - B. confusion
  - C. sadness or distress
- 3 Her fingers were **tracing** the book's outline and as the shape became familiar her face looked surprised and then stunned.
  - A. following along
  - B. gently cleaning
  - C. searching for
- 4 He found the audio-capsule, he heard your voice, he was going to **trace** it.
  - A. draw a sketch of it
  - B. find out where it came from
  - C. make another copy to share
- 5 No wonder books stopped selling, the **critics** said.
  - A. commentators
  - B. complainers
  - C. book sellers
- 6 They were given the new job, as custodians of our peace of mind ... official **censors**, judges, and executors.
  - A. people who arrest criminals
  - B. people who report information
  - C. people who suppress information
- 7 Behind her the walls of the room were flooded with green and yellow and orange fireworks sizzling and bursting to some music **composed** almost completely of trap drums, tom-toms, and cymbals.
  - A. made up
  - B. made calm
  - C. written
- 8 The home **environment** can undo a lot you try to do at school.
  - A. surrounding conditions
  - B. entertainment
  - C. family
- 9 Don't give them any slippery stuff like philosophy or sociology to tie things up with. That way lies **melancholy**.
  - A. happiness
  - B. sadness
  - C. boredom
- 10 [of the legend of Hercules and Antaeus] But when he was held, rootless, in midair, by Hercules, he **perished** easily. If there isn't something in that legend for us today, in this city, in our time, then I am completely insane.
  - A. flew
  - B. died
  - C. escaped

- 11 *The books are to remind us what asses and fools we are. They're Caesar's praetorian guard, whispering as the parade roars down the avenue, 'Remember, Caesar, thou art mortal.'*
- A. foolish
  - B. god-like
  - C. human
- 12 *Eventually, I could put out ears into all parts of the city, with various men, listening and evaluating.*
- A. making judgments
  - B. creating options
  - C. taking action
- 13 *They are never, alone that are accompanied with noble thoughts, we've shouted to ourselves.*
- A. searching for
  - B. capable of thinking
  - C. traveling with
- 14 *And 'The Devil can cite Scripture for his purpose.'*
- A. write
  - B. quote
  - C. ignore
- 15 *One anger displacing another.*
- A. taking the place of
  - B. hidden by
  - C. competing with
- 16 *And if he kept his eye peeled quickly he would see himself, an instant before oblivion,*
- A. chaos
  - B. other watchers
  - C. no longer existing
- 17 *The fugitive cannot escape if everyone in the next minute looks from his house.*
- A. person who stole goods
  - B. person in disguise
  - C. person hiding from police
- 18 *The camera fell upon the victim, even as did the Hound. Both reached him simultaneously.*
- A. very quickly
  - B. in a dangerous manner
  - C. at the same time
- 19 *And when the war's over, some day, some year, the books can be written again, the people will be called in, one by one, to recite what they know and we'll set it up in type until another Dark Age, when we might have to do the whole damn thing over again.*
- A. write down
  - B. say aloud
  - C. discuss
- 20 *Though the desolation had not yet arrived, [it] was still in the air, it was certain as man could make it.*
- A. solution
  - B. destruction
  - C. understanding

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	function ( <i>as in: can't function well without sleep</i> )	High-utility academic word
2	C	dismay	Used 2 times in this book.
3	A	trace ( <i>as in: trace a picture or outline</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
4	B	trace ( <i>as in: trace the origin or development</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	critic ( <i>as in: a well-known art critic</i> )	Used 3 times in this book.
6	C	cancel ( <i>as related to censorship</i> )	Used 2 times in this book.
7	A	compose ( <i>as in: composed of many parts</i> )	High-utility academic word
8	A	environment ( <i>as in: her family environment</i> )	Used 3 times in this book.
9	B	melancholy	Used 5 times in this book.
10	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	C	mortal ( <i>as in: mortal body</i> )	Used about 10 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	A	evaluate	High-utility academic word
13	C	accompany ( <i>as in: accompany on the journey</i> )	High-utility academic word
14	B	cite ( <i>as in: cited from the President's speech</i> )	High-utility academic word
15	A	displace	Used 3 times in this book.
16	C	oblivion	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	fugitive ( <i>as in: she is a fugitive</i> )	Used 3 times in this book.
18	C	simultaneous	Used 2 times in this book.
19	B	recite	Used 2 times in this book.
20	B	desolate ( <i>as in: desolated the region</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.