

Name: _____ Date: _____



12th Grade American Literature/American Literature Honors Summer 2018 Reading Assignments

ACADEMIC HONESTY--By signing below, I am indicating that I read the work(s) under discussion, and these responses are my own original work:

Signature _____

Read the assigned summer reading book, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury and answer one (1) of the essay prompts below by composing a thoughtful, evidence-based thesis paper in response to it. MLA format is required, including the use of parenthetical citations and a Works Cited page. Essays should be 4-5 paragraphs in length and sufficiently address the “so what?” question.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Flanagan at bflanagan@lacordaire.net and he will respond as soon as he can. Have a great summer and happy reading!

- 1) How does Montag’s journey represent a break from mass culture and assert the importance of the individual? What incentives do the powerful of Montag’s society provide in order to encourage conformity? What deterrents do they use in order to dissuade individual thought?**
- 2) What role does mass media (television, film, and other forms of entertainment) contribute to the society of the novel’s degradation of the individual and how does Montag overcome that? What parallels do you see with our own culture of mass media, particularly in the Digital Age?**
- 3) Discuss the symbolism of fire in the novel, in particular Granger’s reliance on the symbol of the phoenix at the novel’s end. What positive, and negative, associations of fire does the novel reinforce or count on to get its message across?**

Read the assigned summer reading book, *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri and provide a direct quote from the novel that you believe most represents the kind of Othering listed. Then analyze in a brief statement (5-6 sentences per quote) why you think that quote best illustrates that kind of Othering.

Racial

Gendered

Cultural

Economic

Self-Othering