

Fahrenheit 451 - Quiz

1/ What is it that, according to the novel 'Fahrenheit 451', catches fire at the temperature of Fahrenheit 451?
Paper.

2/ 'Fahrenheit 451' is set in the opposite of a utopia – which is called what?
A dystopia.

3/ Which famous French director made the 1966 movie adaptation?
François Truffaut.

4/ Into how many "parts" is the novel divided?
Three.

5/ Can you name the three parts?
"The Hearth and the Salamander", "The Sieve and the Sand", and "Burning Bright".

6/ When was the novel published?
1953.

7/ In a 1956 radio interview the author Ray Bradbury identified the events in the USA which inspired him to write the novel. What were these?
The anti-communist scares and hearings orchestrated by Senator Joseph McCarthy.

8/ What is the name of the leader of the group of wanderers in 'Fahrenheit 451' who memorise novels?
Granger.

9/ Ray Bradbury's awareness of the vulnerability of books and literature was heightened by his reading of the burning of a great library almost two thousand years ago. Where was this library?
In Alexandria.

10/ In what country is Alexandria?
Egypt.

11/ In an incident in 1949 that heightened his awareness of the potential for oppressive state control, which he later wrote up as his short story 'The Pedestrian' (1951), Ray Bradbury was stopped one night and questioned by police for doing what?
Walking.

12/ When asked by the police officer what he was doing, what was Bradbury's reply?
"Putting one foot in front of the other."

13/ Ray Bradbury wrote the screenplay for the movie adaptation of what giant-sized (in every sense) classic American novel?
'Moby-Dick' by Herman Melville.

14/ Ironically, the US publishers of 'Fahrenheit 451' put out new editions with alterations to the text without its author's permission. In one instance, a character who is "drunk", was changed to a man who is what?
"Sick".

15/ Who read the award-winning 1976 audio-book version of 'Fahrenheit 451'?
The author.

16/ Ray Bradbury said he was not a "predictor of futures", but a what?
"a preventor". ("People ask me to predict the Future, when all I want to do is prevent it.")

17/ At the time of writing (2017) a new live action-adaptation of 'Fahrenheit 451' is in development, with which production company/broadcaster?
HBO.

18/ To what is the character 'Millie' Montag addicted?
Sleeping pills.

19/ What are the flat screen televisions in 'Fahrenheit 451' called?
"parlor walls".

20/ What post did Faber formerly hold?
English professor.

21/ How did Ann Bowles's second husband die?
In a jet accident.

22/ In the second part of the novel, what poem does Montag recite, causing Mrs Phelps to weep?
'Dover Beach'.

23/ Who is the author of 'Dover Beach'?
Matthew Arnold.

24/ In what country is Dover?
England (UK).

25/ The third part of 'Fahrenheit 451' is called 'Burning Bright' – what poem by William Blake is echoed in the title of the third part?
'The Tyger'.

26/ At the beginning of the third part of the novel , what does Beatty order Montag to destroy?
Montag's own house.

27/ As Montag meets the exiles who have memorised novels and learns of their ideas, aircraft pass overhead – what are they carrying?
Nuclear bombs.

28/ What legendary animal does Granger teach Montag about?
The phoenix.

29/ As well as Nazi book burnings in the 1930s and 1940s, the portrait of the society in 'Fahrenheit 451' was also influenced by the 'Great Purge'; under whose leadership of the Soviet Union was this repression of artists and intellectuals, among many others, conducted?
Joseph Stalin.

30/ How did François Truffaut describe his experience directing the 'Fahrenheit 451' movie of 1966?
His "saddest and most difficult" directing experience.

31/ What unexpected event occurred during the filming of the scene where Montag meets the book-memorisers?
It began to snow.

33/ Who played the part of Guy Montag's wife in the 1966 film?
Julie Christie.

34/ Who was originally cast in the role of Guy Montag but dropped out, fearing that he would be overshadowed by Julie Christie's performance?
Terence Stamp.

35/ Which famous composer of film music created the music for the 1966 film?
Bernard Hermann.

36/ Which was the last film for which Hermann composed music?
Martin Scorsese's 'Taxi Driver' (1976).

37/ In a 2007 interview, Ray Bradbury argued that his book not only identifies state repression as a threat to the reading of literature, but also what?
The mass media.

38/ Which devices does 'Millie' use that serves to cut her off from her husband?

"Seashell ear thimbles". (Headphones inside the ear.)

39/ In what US state was Ray Bradbury born in 1920?
Illinois.

40/ What planet did Ray Bradbury chronicle in 1950?
Mars. (In 'The Martian Chronicles'.)

41/ The sci-fi movie 'It Came From Outer Space' (1953) was based on a treatment by Bradbury. What famous maker of cult 1950s sci-fi movies directed this?
Jack Arnold.

42/ In what year did Ray Bradbury die?
2012.

43/ On his death, what well-known US newspaper described Bradbury as "the writer most responsible for bringing modern science fiction into the literary mainstream"?
The New York Times.

44/ How old was Bradbury when he received his first pay cheque for writing?
Fourteen.

45/ At the age of twelve, Bradbury wrote a sequel to the novel 'The Warlord of Mars' – who was the author of this book (part of the 'John Carter of Mars' series)?
Edgar Rice Burroughs.

46/ In 2010, Bradbury resisted his work being turned into what?
E-books.

47/ Living to an old age, Bradbury saw the death of many good friends; one friend he grieved particularly was Gene Roddenberry. What well-known sci-fi TV series did Roddenberry create?
'Star Trek'.

48/ To where did Ray Bradbury bequeath his collection of books on his death?
To his childhood local library in Waukegan, Illinois.

49/ Bradbury wrote 'I Sing The Body Electric', the script for the 100th episode of which famous US TV series?
'The Twilight Zone'.

50/ Ray Bradbury was descended from Mary Bradbury who in 1692 was tried as a witch at what famous trials?
The Salem Witch Trials.