**Character Analysis Paper**

Write an analysis of a character or pair of characters from the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Consider how Bradbury uses the character(s) to develop a theme in the book.

* Option 1: Show examples of how a character changed between two points in the story. Explain why and how the change happened. Analyze how this change contributes to a theme in the book.
* Option 2: Compare two characters, showing similarities and/or differences. Analyze how their characteristics or actions contribute to a theme in the book.

*Analysis* means to break something down into small pieces to better understand it. You will pick out small parts of the story where details contribute to a chosen theme’s development. You should present a clear thesis that offers your insight into the character(s) and theme. Then you should use ample evidence from the story to support your insight. You should organize your thoughts and present them in a clear, organized piece of formal academic writing.

Your paper should be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1″ margins. Choose a title for your paper that reflects its main ideas. Prior to the title, include your name, my name, your class/period, and the date submitted.

**Character Analysis Portfolio**

As you work on this paper, we will apply the steps of the writing process (pre-writing, organization, writing, evaluation, and revision = POWER). Your character analysis portfolio will document your progress through the writing process. It should include the following items:

1. Your thesis brainstorming sheet
2. Your evidence outline
3. Drafting materials
4. The reviewed rough draft of your paper
5. Your final paper

+ Any other notes or pre-writing materials you want to submit to show me your work on this paper

Characters Starter Topics to Use for Brainstorming Themes

Guy Montag

Old woman

Clarisse McClellan

Mildred

Captain Beatty

Stoneman and Black

Mrs. Bowles

Mrs. Phelps

Professor Faber

Granger & friends

Curiosity

Guilt

Regret

Compliance

Rebellion

Censorship

Power of technology

Repression

Independence

Courage

Conformity

Knowledge

Ignorance

Numbness

Natural world

Self-awareness

Memory

Social order

Personal freedom

Happiness

Distraction

Violence

Dissatisfaction

Literature

Rules

Wisdom

Identity

Artificiality

Control

Apathy

Loneliness

Creativity

Destructiveness

Fanaticism

Despair

Rejuvenation

Life and death

Entertainment

Family relationships

Information overload

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Category | Superior: 20-19 | Good: 18-16 | Developing: 15-14 | Not Yet: 13-10 |
| Ideas | You demonstrate unique insight into a theme and character(s). Your analysis demonstrates an unusual depth of understanding. | You explain a theme and character(s), showing how details contribute to the theme’s development. | Your paper addresses either character attributes or a theme, but does not show insight into how they connect. | Your paper does not address the assignment. |
| Organization | You demonstrate control and sophistication in organizing ideas to make a point. Your introduction is catchy and compelling. Your body paragraphs transition smoothly. Your conclusion highlights the importance of your insights. | Your paper has clear introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs, with a thesis addressing the prompt and topic sentences introducing each body paragraph. | Your paper exhibits rudimentary organization, but it is at times random or disjointed. | The paper lacks organization and cohesion. |
| Support | You develop your ideas thoroughly, presenting abundant, convincing evidence from the story for your interpretation. You smoothly incorporate summaries, paraphrases, and quotations. | You provide adequate support (summary, paraphrase, quotation) for your thesis using examples from the story. | Your paper incorporates some examples from the story, but they are either not sufficient, poorly integrated, or you do not show how they relate to your point. | You do not present support for the ideas you present. |
| Presentation | You use correct MLA paper format and consistently maintain a formal academic voice. Your paper is free of grammar and convention errors. You demonstrate control and sophistication in making linguistic and stylistic choices. | You use MLA paper format and an appropriate formal academic voice. Your writing is generally smooth and free of grammar or convention errors. | You deviate from MLA paper format or occasionally slip from an academic voice. There are occasional distractions because of convention errors or awkward language use. | You do not follow MLA paper format. Your voice is consistently informal. Error-ridden language often distracts from your point. |
| Process | The portfolio shows strong evidence of meaningful progression through the writing process. | The portfolio shows progression through the writing process. | The portfolio is missing some major components and reflects an incomplete writing process. | The portfolio is very thin or missing altogether. |