

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

### Part 3: "Burning Bright" Discussion Questions

1. What do you think caused Mildred to bring about the destruction of her own house by reporting that her husband had hidden books?
2. Why does Beatty want Montag to wield the flame thrower to destroy his own house and why does Montag acquiesce?
3. Almost without knowing it, Montag's hands switch off the safety on the flame thrower aimed at Beatty. What does this show about Montag's state of awareness or consciousness?
4. Why do you think Beatty mockingly tells Montag to "pull the trigger" on the flame thrower Montag has aimed at him?
5. Is Montag justified in killing Beatty? Why or why not?
6. Why do the teenagers in the car try to kill Montag as he crosses the avenue? How do their actions reflect what is happening in society?
7. What is fitting about Montag's planting books in Fireman Black's home?
8. What insight about himself does Montag gain as he reflects on his violent actions?
9. Even though war has been declared, the news media focuses on the Mechanical Hound's tracking of Montag. What does this say about the function of the media in society?
10. If Montag were caught and dying, what single word or phrase do you think he could say to the TV cameras that would wake the people up to the enforced triviality of their lives?
11. What insight about time and the sun and his actions as a fireman does Montag get during his leisurely float on the river? What does Montag understand humans must do to counter the effects of the time-burning sun?
12. How is the campfire different from the burning fire with which Montag is familiar?
13. What is so remarkable to Montag about the voices around the campfire he hears as he hides in the trees?
14. How is Montag like the men he encounters gathered around the campfire?
15. How do the old men hope to use the books they have memorized, and what do they think will happen?
16. What makes the war and its end so unreal to Montag and his companions?
17. What do Montag's imaginings about Mildred's fate when the bombs fall indicate about him?
18. What, according to Granger, makes humans different from the Phoenix? How will this help humankind finally?
19. Why do you think that the old men fall in behind Montag on their journey back to the city. Why has he become the leader?
20. What is the significance of the quote that Montag will save for noon when they reach the city?