Part One: Fahrenheit 451 Choosing and Responding to Quotes

The novel is divided into 3 sections. You will be responsible for 3 quote and response entries from each section. You should have a total of 9 quote and response entries.

Title the first section of your paper “The Hearth and the Salamander,” the second section “The Sieve and the Sand,” and the third section “Burning Bright.”

Under each section heading, you will be writing 3 quotes of text that you have selected as being interesting, significant or worthy of comment. The quoted text does not have to be something that a character said. It can be part of the narration. All quotes (both what characters say and narration) must be inside quotation marks, correctly punctuated and cited with the author’s last name and page number.

Under each quotation, write a thoughtful response to the quote using one of the required response prompts. Be sure to identify by number which prompt response you are using.

Response Prompt Choices
Use one response choice per quote. All three response choices must be used in each section in any order. Repeat the same process for all three sections.

1. Explain how the quote reveals something about the character either saying the quote or being spoken about in the quote.

2. Note examples of literary techniques or devices such as similes, metaphors, personification, imagery, allusion, etc. (This is a good example of _____ because...). Explain the effect of the technique/device and why the author might be using it. (When the author uses this _____ it...).

3. Make inferences or draw conclusions about something in the story based on the quote. (The author seems to be trying to show that…/ I understand that the reason the speaker feels this way is…The author wants the reader to understand/wonder/feel…)

Sample Quote and Response

“The Hearth and the Salamander”

“So many people are. Afraid of firemen, I mean. But you’re just a man, after all” (Bradbury 7).

Response choice #3- This quote reveals that people in the book’s society are afraid of firemen. Since this is at the beginning of the book, the author wants the reader to be confused about why people would fear firemen. In our society, firemen are seen as protectors of people and property who are very trustworthy. I can infer that firemen are still important in this society, but their role is not so benevolent, or at least people don’t think of them as “heroes” the way our society does. The author also seems to be implying that the speaker, Clarisse, might not be like the other people in her society because 1) she isn’t afraid of Guy Montag and 2) she is able to think about her experiences and change her mind about her preconceived ideas. The author seems to be trying to show that the society is very different from our own, that firemen are feared (probably as some kind of authority figures) and that Clarisse understands her society and might be different from lots of people in it.

(This entry would be followed by two more quotes and responses from the first section of the book. The second and third sections will follow the same pattern.)