

## **Fahrenheit 451 DIALECTICAL JOURNALS**

The term “Dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the text that you are reading. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the text.

### **PROCEDURE:**

1. As you read, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the **left-hand column** the chart (*ALWAYS include page numbers*). Choose **two passages, in the right column**, write your response to the text (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage)
2. You **must label your responses** using the following codes: **\*You may only use each label once!\***

**(Q) Question** – ask about something in the passage that is unclear

**(C) Connect** – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text

**(P) Predict** – anticipate what will occur based on what’s in the passage

**(CL) Clarify** – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction

**(R) Reflect** – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story/author of the article. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?

### **CHOOSING PASSAGES FROM THE TEXT: (LEFT HAND COLUMN)**

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling.

For example, you might record:

- Effective &/or creative use of stylistic or literary devices
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you've seen before
- A passage that makes you realize something you hadn't seen before
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or motifs.
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Events you find surprising or confusing
- Passages that illustrate a particular character or setting

### **RESPONDING TO THE TEXT: (RIGHT HAND COLUMN)**

You can *respond* to the text in a variety of ways. The most important thing to remember is that your observations should be **specific and detailed**. You can write as much as you want for each entry. You can choose to type and save your journals, or you can write by hand.

#### **Basic Responses**

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author

#### **Higher Level Responses**

- Analyze the text for use of literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery)
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Consider an event or description from the perspective of a different character

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ pd. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Your dialectical responses must be done individually and authentic to you! No copying answers from others.**

Passage/ Page	Dialectical Response
<p>p. _7____</p> <p>Isn't this a nice time of night to walk? I like to smell things and look at things, and sometimes stay up all night, walking, and watch the sun rise."</p>	<p>Response label _____C__</p> <p>Clarisse seems to be very similar to the protagonist in The Pedestrian. It seems that Bradbury is taking the man from his short story and creating the character of Clarisse from him. I wonder what Clarisse's fate will be in this story.</p>
<p>p. _____</p>	<p>Response label _____</p>
<p>p. _____</p>	<p>Response label _____</p>