

KEY FOR...

Montag at the Start of the Story

1.) What is Montag's job? Does he like it? Why?

- **he is a fireman; he burns books (and the houses that hide books)**
- **he does like it; but it seems he likes it in an unhealthy way (eg. the fierce grin on page 8)**
- **he loves to see things burn**

2.) What does Montag think about?

Mostly, he is happy to consciously, intentionally, not think about things. He seems satisfied to just do his job, go home then go back to work the next day. On occasion, he thinks about his past (eg page 11).

3.) What does he do for fun?

It seems as if he doesn't do fun things; maybe he takes walks and sits in the park talking to strangers (eg one afternoon a year ago on page 14)

4.) Describe his relationship with his wife.

His wife and he are detached; the relationship seems one of cold familiarity. They have separate beds, she tends to escape into "an electronic ocean of sound" (16), and it seems he is resigned to her behavior in general. However, when she was in crisis, it seemed to affect him significantly (eg. pages 17-18) He does love her or at least shows concern for her, but there may be no real bond with her (eg. pages 16-17, the words "cold...tomb...immovable...cold...cold...dull...featureless" describe/connote the setting, and mood)

5.) Describe his thoughts on Clarisse.

She fascinates him (eg. page 15); to him she is mysterious and mystical. Her honesty is strange, yet refreshing; and that bewilders him. He thinks about things and remembers things because of her presence.

6.) What is most important to him?

Outwardly it's likely he values his place in society; so, his job. However, inwardly it seems he has not yet realized what is most important to him.