

SIGNIFICANCE OF CHARACTERS (How the characters' involvement helped the novel to progress/Because the character was there, what was able to happen?)

(1) Montag

(2) Faber

- A symbol of hope for Montag - a comrade in Montag's journey of enlightenment and self-discovery; Montag is not alone
- Faber is important as serving as a character for Montag to seek help from amidst his confusion - Due to Faber's presence, Faber is able to teach and validate Montag on his thoughts (this provides an opportunity for Montag to learn & progress)
- Faber aids in symbolising how all hope is not lost
- Faber gives hope to Montag that he will be able to change his ways (By making him feel that he is not alone + acting a teacher to guide Montag in his confusing journey of intellectual enlightenment)

EXP: Faber gives Montag the courage and strength that he can face the ultimate enemy of the truth, Captain Beatty, in this fight where he is with Montag and will stand by him to help him when he is feeling unsure and confused

(3) Clarisse

- Clarisse's first encounter with Montag made Montag realise for the first time ever how he was not genuinely happy and caused Montag to start thinking - she is the reason for the start of his realisation & confusion
- Clarisse symbolises the happiness and kindness that people who are not manipulated by the government experience → this is compared to people who are products of society like Mildred

(4) Beatty

(5) Mildred

- A product of society
- Lack of compassion
- Lack of critical thinking skills
- Person who follows the thought processes of the masses [subject to the manipulations of the government]
- Unhappy
- Addicted & overly-reliant on technology
- To serve as a character in the book to illustrate to the reader the mindset, thoughts, actions and behaviour of the majority of society
- To show how unhappy people in society are as Mildred overdosed in the first ever scene that introduces Mildred to reader
- To show what happens to people who are products of society (The emotionless operation that Mildred went through is what others in society also go through - hence Bradbury uses Mildred to illustrate to readers of what happens to people who have been successfully manipulated by the government)

(6) Mechanical Hound

- To show how technology is employed in society to aid in the endeavours of the firemen
- MH is a powerful machine (Shows the extent of strict control of the government to fully efficiently ensure that they capture people who act unlawfully)