

The Cloze Reading Comprehension Test
Master Copy
for Fahrenheit 451

By Ray Bradbury
New York: Ballantine, 1967

Pages 102-103:

Outside, crossing the lawn, on his way to work, he tried not to see how completely dark and deserted Clarisse McClellan's house was....

On the way downtown he was so completely alone with his terrible error that he felt the necessity for the strange warmth and goodness that came from a familiar and gentle voice speaking in the night. Already in a few short hours, it seemed that he had known Faber a lifetime. Now he knew that he was two people, that he was, above all, Montag who knew nothing, who did not even know himself a fool, but only suspected it. And he knew that he was also the old man who talked to him and talked to him as the train was sucked from one end of the night city to the other on one long sickening gasp of motion. In the days to follow, and in the nights when there was no moon and in the nights when there was a very bright moon shining on the earth, the old man would go on with this talking and this talking, drop by drop, stone by stone, flake by flake. His mind would well over at last and he would not be Montag any more, this the old man told him, assured him, promised him. He would be Montag-plus-Faber, fire plus water, and then, one day, after everything had mixed and simmered and worked away in silence, there would be neither fire nor water, but wine. Out of two separate and opposite things, a third. And one day he would look back upon the fool and know the fool.

Ann Genho, BYU, 2002

The Cloze Reading Comprehension Test
Student Copy
for Fahrenheit 451

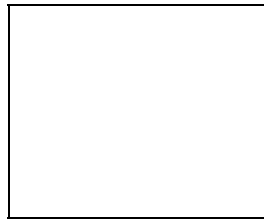
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The following passage is an excerpt from pages 102-103 in the section we have been reading in our novel Fahrenheit 451. Try to fill in the blanks with the words that were used in the book. Even if you're not sure what word goes in the blank, make a good guess.

Outside, crossing the lawn, on his way to work, he tried not to see how completely dark and deserted Clarisse McClellan's house was....

On the _____ downtown he was so _____ alone with his terrible _____ that he felt the _____ for the strange warmth _____ goodness that came from _____ familiar and gentle voice _____ in the night. Already _____ a few short hours, _____ seemed that he had _____ Faber a lifetime. Now _____ knew that he was _____ people, that he was, _____ all, Montag who knew _____, who did not even _____ himself a fool, but _____ suspected it. And he _____ that he was also _____ old man who talked _____ him and talked to _____ as the train was _____ from one end of _____ night city to the _____ on one long sickening _____ of motion. In the _____ to follow, and in _____ nights when there was _____ moon and in the _____ when there was a _____ bright moon shining on _____ earth, the old man _____ go on with this _____ and this talking, drop _____ drop, stone by stone, _____ by flake. His mind _____ well over at last _____ he would not be _____ any more, this the _____ man told him, assured _____, promised him. He would _____ Montag-plus-Faber, fire _____ water, and then, one _____, after everything had mixed _____ simmered and worked

away _____ silence, there would be _____ fire nor water, but
_____. Out of two separate _____ opposite things, a third.
_____ one day he would _____ back upon the fool _____
know the fool.



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