

English 9

READING ASSIGNMENT

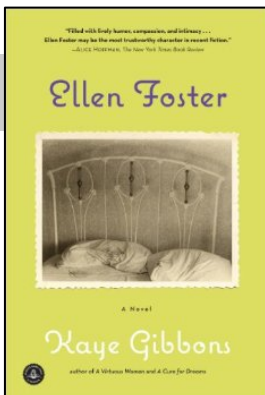
No sources, other than the sources listed on this assignment handout, may be consulted for this assignment.

1. **Choose one of the two novels to read.** As you read, pay attention to the focus of the theme chart (attached to this document). **YOU ONLY HAVE TO READ ONE OF THE BOOKS BELOW.**
2. **Complete the attached chart for your selected book.** The four themes for each novel can be found on that book's chart. These major themes shape the reader's understanding of the each novel, and there are numerous examples in the novel of each theme. On your chart, identify the FIVE most powerful and/or interesting examples of each theme that you encounter in the book. This completed chart will provide the evidence you need for our **in-class discussions** and **your first writing assignment**.

NO OUTSIDE SOURCES SHOULD BE CONSULTED. ALL WORK SHOULD BE YOURS!

Questions?

English 9 Summer Reading Contact: Mr. Patton (michael.patton@jp2hs.org)

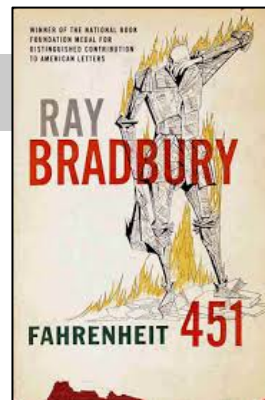


Ellen Foster by Kaye Gibbons

(Amazon summary) "In *Ellen Foster*, the title character is an 11-year-old orphan who refers to herself as 'old Ellen,' an appellation that is disturbingly apt. Ellen is an old woman in a child's body; her frail, unhappy mother dies, her abusive father alternately neglects her and makes advances on her, and she is shuttled from one uncaring relative's home to

another before she finally takes matters into her own hands and finds herself a place to belong. There is something almost Dickensian about Ellen's tribulations; like *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield* or a host of other literary child heroes, Ellen is at the mercy of predatory adults, with only her own wit and courage--and the occasional kindness of others--to help her through. That she does, in fact, survive her childhood and even rise above it is the book's bittersweet victory."

ISBN-13: 978-1616203023



Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

(Amazon summary) "Ray Bradbury's internationally acclaimed novel *Fahrenheit 451* is a masterwork of twentieth-century literature set in a bleak, dystopian future. Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are

hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television 'family.' But then he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people didn't live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television. When Mildred attempts suicide and Clarisse suddenly disappears, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known. He starts hiding books in his home, and when his pilfering is discovered, the fireman has to run for his life."

ISBN-13: 978-1451673319

Ellen Foster Theme Chart

Theme	Evidence: Example/instance of that theme occurring in the novel	Citation: Page number(s)
1 - Loneliness	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	
2 – Family	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	

Ellen Foster Theme Chart

3 - Determination	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	
4 – Race/Racism	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	

Fahrenheit 451 Theme Chart

Theme	Evidence: Example/instance of that theme occurring in the novel	Citation: Page number(s)
1 - Censorship	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	
2 – Government Control	Example #1 – Example #2 – Example #3- Example #4- Example #5-	

Fahrenheit 451 Theme Chart

<p>3 - Technology</p>	<p>Example #1 –</p> <p>Example #2 –</p> <p>Example #3-</p> <p>Example #4-</p> <p>Example #5-</p>	
<p>4 - Courage</p>	<p>Example #1 –</p> <p>Example #2 –</p> <p>Example #3-</p> <p>Example #4-</p> <p>Example #5-</p>	