

Name _____

The Evolution of Guy Montag in 'Fahrenheit 451'

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Montag's act of secretly collecting and reading books represents his rebellion against a conformist society that suppresses free thought and diversity of ideas. It symbolizes the human capacity for change and the pursuit of knowledge and independent thought.
2. Montag's encounter with fire undergoes a transformation from a destructive force to a symbol of renewal and hope when he joins Granger's group, which aims to preserve knowledge through memorizing books. Fire represents both destruction and the potential for rebirth and renewal.
3. The theme of knowledge plays a central role in Montag's journey as he seeks to acquire knowledge beyond what the government permits. His quest for knowledge shapes his character by awakening his curiosity and desire for independent thought.
4. Montag's decision to join Granger and his group of rebels signifies his commitment to preserving knowledge, literature, and independent thought. It reflects his hopes for a future where these values are once again valued and celebrated in society.

