

Name _____

History Matters

Short Answer Key

1. The Path was designed to prevent travelers from affecting the environment, ensuring the future remained unchanged.
2. By stepping off the Path and killing a butterfly, Eckels caused a chain reaction that altered history and changed the present.
3. The butterfly symbolizes how small actions can lead to significant consequences in the future.
4. Bradbury shows the dangers of interfering with history through Eckels' mistake, which leads to a completely changed world.
5. Eckels learned that even small, careless actions can have serious and irreversible effects on the future.

