



## ***Fahrenheit 451* - WebQuest Project**

### English III

A WebQuest project uses the resources of the Internet to explore and answer questions pertaining to a particular topic. We are going to explore the issue of censorship - past and present.

#### **Introduction**

You have been appointed to the Government's Freedom of Speech Commission. The Commission is studying issues related to Censorship and has asked you to investigate some of the history of censorship and to use the information to help the Commission make judgments about contemporary censorship issues. You will be using the WebQuest to find information about some of the instances of censorship the Commission is interested in.

#### **Task**

The WebQuest will have two parts:

To complete Part I, you must explore Web sites on censorship in the past and the present. You will be given a selection of web sites related to these issues from which to choose.

Part II is an essay on a contemporary censorship issue. The essay must use information from the Web sites, so you will need to take notes as you explore the sites. (Remember to record reference/citation information.). Your essay should be 2-3 pages, must follow the MLA format, and must include a Works Cited page. A hardcopy will be due at the beginning of class on December 4. Your work should also be submitted on Blackboard through Safe Assignment.

#### **Process**

##### **Part I:**

Explore these sites for information on the kinds of historical censorship Ray Bradbury discusses in *Fahrenheit 451*: For this part of the WebQuest, I will be collecting answers to the questions that accompany each web site.

Step I: The burning of Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley:

- Why were they burned at the stake?
- Why was Latimer confident that they were doing the right thing?
- Why would it be important to remind people of this history?

[http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Latimer\\_Ridley\\_Cranmer.htm](http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/Latimer_Ridley_Cranmer.htm)

<http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bio/269.html>

Step II: Nazi Book Burning:

- In what way might these images have inspired Bradbury to write *Fahrenheit 451*?

Nazi Book Burning:

<http://web.nwe.ufl.edu/~gulmer/F97/martesi2/image/job4.html>

Step III: McCarthyism and Blacklisting in Hollywood:

This site will take you to a page of links. Each link takes you to a page that tells a small part of the story of Blacklisting in Hollywood in the late 1940's and early 1950's. You will need to look at several of the pages to get a complete picture.

- Why did it happen?
- Was it right or wrong?
- Could it happen again?
- How might it have inspired Bradbury to write *Fahrenheit 451*?

[www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/blacklist.html](http://www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/blacklist.html)

<http://us.history.wisc.edu/hist102/bios/31.html>

## **Part II:**

Explore these sites to look at censorship issues that are in the news today. These questions are designed to guide your thinking for the essay you will write in Part III. I will not be collecting answers to them, but the essay should demonstrate that you have thought about them.

Questions to consider as you prepare your paper:

- Who is in favor of these limitations on freedom of speech?
- Why are they in favor of them?
- Who is opposed?
- Why are they opposed?
- Which side do you agree with? Why?

Warning Labels on CD's

[http://www.findarticles.com/m1571/n2\\_v13/20121875/p1/article.jhtml](http://www.findarticles.com/m1571/n2_v13/20121875/p1/article.jhtml)

The V-Chip and Movie Ratings: Controlling access to violence and sexuality in the Media

<http://www.fcc.gov/vchip>

Decency and the Public Funding of the Arts

<http://www.freedomforum.org/templates/document.asp?documentID=10906>

## Book Banning

<http://history.howstuffworks.com/american-history/book-banning.htm>

[http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/Speech/libraries/topic.aspx?topic=banned\\_books](http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/Speech/libraries/topic.aspx?topic=banned_books)

## Additional Sites

<b>Book Banning</b>	<p><a href="#">The Library Bill of Rights</a> - also explore the links on this page</p> <p><a href="#">Banned Books Online</a></p> <p><a href="#">Banned Book List</a></p> <p><a href="#">Censorship in American Libraries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Book Banning Heats Up</a></p> <p><a href="#">Banning and Censorship of Children's Books</a> - also explore the links on this page</p> <p><a href="#">The Roman Inquisition</a></p> <p><a href="#">McCarthyism</a></p>
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<b>Book Burning</b>	<p><a href="#">Examples from each century</a> - click each century in the links at the bottom</p> <p><a href="#">Qin Dynasty</a></p> <p><a href="#">Nazi Censorship</a></p> <p><a href="#">Nazi Book Burning</a> - also click on the related links at the bottom of the page</p> <p><a href="#">Nazi Propaganda</a></p> <p><a href="#">Religion and Book Burning</a></p> <p><a href="#">21st Century</a></p>
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<b>Global Internet News Media</b>	<p><a href="#">Censorship</a> - a list of TONS of great links- explore them!</p> <p><a href="#">Censorship in Democratic Societies</a></p> <p><a href="#">Censorship of the Media</a> - an editorial</p> <p><a href="#">The Trial of Peter Zenger</a> - a historical take on freedom of press</p> <p><a href="#">Beijing's Censorship of the Internet</a></p> <p><a href="#">Internet Censorship</a></p>
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<b>Music Video Games</b>	<p><a href="#">Music Censorship 1950 to Present</a></p> <p><a href="#">Parental Advisory Labels</a></p>
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## Television Art

[The V-Chip](#)

[Will the V-Chip Protect Children?](#)

[Censoring Television, Movies, and Music](#) - check out some of the links

[The Museum of Broadcast Communications](#)

[The Video Game Industry](#)

[Censoring Art](#)

### Part III:

Part II is an essay on a contemporary censorship issue. You have been appointed to the Government's Freedom of Speech Commission. The Commission has been studying issues related to censorship, and has asked you to write a report explaining one of these controversies and making a recommendation for action.

The essay must use information from the Web sites, so you will need to take notes as you explore the sites. (Remember to record reference/citation information.). Your essay should be 2-3 pages, must follow the MLA format, and must include a Works Cited page. A hardcopy will be due at the beginning of class on December 4. Your work should also be submitted on Blackboard through Safe Assignment.

### Evaluation

Your WebQuest Project will be evaluated in two ways:

- First, I will evaluate your answers to the Questions asked about the individual web sites in Part I. I will be looking to see that you have explored the web sites effectively, and that you have thought about the information you found there.
- Second, I will be grading the essay you wrote for Part III. I will look to see how effectively you have used information and ideas from this WebQuest to support your opinions on one of the censorship topics explored in Part II. Good essays will be 4-6 paragraphs long and will contain specific information on censorship in the past and in America today. Of course, the essay should be well organized, interesting, and written in proper Standard English.