



Fahrenheit 451 Compare Characters

Throughout the course of *Fahrenheit 451*, Montag interacts with only two women: his wife, Mildred, and his seventeen-year-old neighbor, Clarisse. Complete this chart with each of the women's personality traits. Then answer the questions below about what Montag learns from Clarisse and Mildred throughout the novel.

Clarisse McClellan	Mildred Montag

What does Montag learn from Clarisse?

What does Montag learn from Mildred?

RL.9-10.3 Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Answer Key

Sample Student Responses

Clarisse McClellan	Mildred Montag
<i>described as curious</i>	<i>constantly has Seashells in her ears</i>
<i>calls herself “crazy”</i>	<i>tries to kill herself</i>
<i>likes to smell things and observe things</i>	<i>watches television all day</i>

What does Montag learn from Clarisse?

Montag learns that he is not actually happy and that there is value to be found in questioning things and thinking for oneself.

What does Montag learn from Mildred?

Montag learns that Mildred is truly dissatisfied despite her saying that she is happy and that there is no joy to be found in her vapid use of technology.