Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* & Matthew Arnold’s “Dover Beach”

**FOCUS: LISTEN CLOSELY TO THE READING OF “DOVER BEACH”**

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| **Highlight/underline some of the words (nouns, verbs, phrases) that are important to understanding the poem.** | **Write what you think Matthew Arnold is saying in each stanza** |
| The sea is calm tonight. The tide is full, the moon lies fair Upon the straits; on the French coast, the light Gleams and is gone; the cliffs of England stand, Glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay. Come to the window, sweet is the night-air! Only, from the long line of spray Where the sea meets the moon-blanched land, |  |
| Listen! you hear the grating roar Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling, At their return, up the high strand, Begin, and cease, and then again begin, With tremulous cadence slow, and bring The eternal note of sadness in. |  |
| Sophocles long ago Heard it on the Aegean, and it brought Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow Of human misery; we Find also in the sound a thought, Hearing it by this distant northern sea. |  |
| The Sea of Faith Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled. But now I only hear Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar, Retreating, to the breath Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear And naked shingles of the world. |  |
| Ah, love, let us be true To one another! for the world, which seems To lie before us like a land of dreams, So various, so beautiful, so new, Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light, Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain; And we are here as on a darkling plain Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight, Where ignorant armies clash by night. |  |

Answer the questions below using complete sentences.

1. What does the title mean? Take a look at the title and reflect on what it means:

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1. What do you think the poem means? Now, think about the meaning of the poem, not just the obvious meaning of each word but what they mean beyond the literal. Do these words suggest something else? Answer these questions:
   1. Who/What is the subject of the poem?

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* 1. What is the speaker talking about?

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* 1. What is the poet’s tone about the subject of the poem, and how do you know?

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1. Identify all applicable poetic devices and explain how they convey the poem’s message:
   1. Simile – comparison using like or as:

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* 1. Metaphor – a direct comparison:

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* 1. Personification – giving human qualities to nonhuman things:

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* 1. Tone – what emotion does the speaker use: choose the ***best*** choice and explain **WHY** the word you selected ***best*** ***describes*** the **TONE**.
     1. Sympathetic
     2. Disenchanted
     3. Apathetic
     4. Optimistic

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* 1. Imagery – creating pictures with words:

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* 1. Alliteration – repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of (usually consecutive) words:

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1. Does it seem likely that the speaker of the poem will get what he/she is asking for? Why or why not?

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1. Which of the following BEST describes the poem’s theme?
   1. Man is far more powerful than nature.
   2. Nature’s power can be felt in our souls.
   3. Faith is disappearing, like the retreat of the waves on a beach.
   4. Like a wave covering the sand, time disappears forever.
2. How does this poem reflect the world of Fahrenheit 451? Why would Bradbury choose to include “Dover Beach” in his novel? Consider the novel as a whole and the circumstances of the specific mention within the novel.

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| **Level of Achievement** | **General Approach** | **Comprehension** |
| **Exemplary**  **(2)** | * + Topic sentence addresses the question.   + States a relevant, justifiable answer   + Uses acceptable style and grammar (no errors). | * + Demonstrates an accurate and complete understanding of the question and poem.   + Backs conclusions with evidence and commentary. * Uses 2 or more ideas, examples and/or arguments that support each answer |
| **Adequate**  **(1.5)** | * + Topic sentence does not address the question explicitly, although does so tangentially.   + States a relevant and justifiable answer   + Uses acceptable style and grammar (one error). | * + Demonstrates accurate but only adequate understanding of question and poem   + Does not back conclusions with evidence and commentary.   + Uses only one idea to support each answer * Less thorough than above. |
| **Needs Improvement**  **(1)** | * + Does not address the question.   + States no relevant answers   + Indicates misconceptions. * Fails to use acceptable style and grammar (two or more errors). | * + Does not demonstrate accurate understanding of the question and poem * Does not provide evidence or commentary to support their answer to the question. |
| **No Answer – (0)** |  |  |