

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# BOOK BURNING

"The paper burns, but the words fly away."

-Rabbi Akiba Ben Joseph



## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

### DIRECTIONS

After reading the article "Book Burning" from the US Holocaust Museum, answer the questions below. (Article @ <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005852>)

1. Who were the initiators for the book burnings in Germany, and what was their motivation/purpose?
2. Describe the scene of the first book burning in Nazi Germany.
3. What books (or authors mentioned) were burned. List a few with which you are familiar. What did they have in common?
4. How does the book burning scene in Bradbury's novel compare and/or contrast to the book burning that occurred in Nazi Germany?
5. Consider the quote at the end of the article: "Where they burn books, they will also ultimately burn people." In *Fahrenheit 451*, a woman burns with her books, so it seems that Bradbury interpreted Heine's statement literally. Was he correct in that interpretation? Why or why not, or could it be both literal and figurative? Explain.