

Beatty's Speech

Work with a partner to analyze Beatty's speech.

1. *Organize and organize and superorganize super-super sports. More cartoons in books. More pictures. The mind drinks less and less...With school turning out more runners, jumpers, racers, tinkers, grabbers, snatchers, fliers, and swimmers instead of examiners, critics, knowers, and imaginative creators, the word 'intellectual', of course, became the swear word it deserved to be.*

What are two things Beatty is saying?

A.

B.

How is this similar and dissimilar to our world today?

2. *The bigger your market, Montag, the less you handle controversy. Remember that! All the minor minor minorities with their navels to be kept clean. Authors, full of evil thoughts, lock up your typewriters. They did. Magazines became a nice blend of vanilla tapioca [...] It didn't come from the Government down. There was no dictum, no declaration, no censorship, to start with, no! Technology, mass exploitation, and minority pressure carried the trick, thank God. Today, thanks to them, you can stay happy all the time*

What is Beatty saying?

How is this similar/dissimilar to our world today?

3. *Give the people contests they win by remembering the words to more popular songs or the names of state capitals or how much corn Iowa great last year. Cram them full of noncombustible data, chock them so damned full of 'facts' they feel stuffed, but absolutely 'brilliant' with information. Then they'll feel they're thinking, they'll get a sense of motion without moving. And they'll be happy, because facts of that sort don't change. Don't give them slippery stuff like philosophy or sociology to tie things up with.*

What is Beatty saying?

Explain how this is similar to our world today.

4. *Empty the theaters save for the clowns and furnish the rooms glass walls and pretty colors running up and down the walls like confetti or blood or sherry [...] If the drama is bad, if the film says nothing, if the play is hollow, sting me with the theremin, loudly. I'll think I'm just responding to the play, when it's only a tactile reaction to vibration. But I don't care. I just like solid entertainment.*

What is Beatty saying?

How is this similar to our world today?