Create Your Own Utopia
English 10 • Fahrenheit 451 Pre-Reading Activity

Assignment: Imagine that you are in a position to create a society from scratch. You and your partner(s) must attempt to form a culture that is free from the troubles of current society. You must first identify what you believe to be wrong with the world today; then you must attempt to correct those problems. To do this, please address all of the components mentioned below. Each group will need to turn in one copy of this worksheet.

1. **List of Complaints:** Make a list of reasons for forming your society. In other words, what do you *not* like about current society? What are your specific complaints?

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2. **Name** your society. Your name should reflect the ideals and values of your utopia.

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3. **Utopian Motto:** Create a slogan/motto to which inhabitants of your utopia would adhere. The motto should reflect the overall ideals of your society.

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4. **Utopian Animal:** What animal would symbolize your utopian society? Explain your choice. You can make up an animal as long as you have a sound explanation for what is symbolizes.

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5. **Rules/Rationales:** Develop a list of at least ten (10) rules that all community members would follow. Give a rationale for each rule.

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6. **Provisions for Life’s Necessities:** Explain how you will provide the basic necessities for living in your utopia (food, water, shelter, etc.).

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7. **Governing Body:** How will the government of this utopia be structured? Will you have a democracy, anarchy, a monarchy, or a dictatorship? How will decisions be made in your utopia?

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8. **Members/Citizens:** If you don’t have a global utopia, who will your citizens be? How many? What will they do? What rights will they have? How will they gain admittance to your utopia?

9. **Children & Education:** What are children’s roles in your society? How do they fit in? What will your system of education be like?

10. **Economics, Work & Leisure:** What systems will be in place for the production and distribution of goods and services? What form of currency will you use? How is wealth distributed? Will your economy be independent or reliant on the rest of the world? Who will do the work? What does a day in the life of one of your inhabitants look like?

11. **Science, Technology & Environment:** Will you use technology in your utopia? How? What role will scientific pursuits play? What will your energy sources be? How will you dispose of society’s wastes?
12. **Religion**: What role will religion play in your utopia? What freedoms or restrictions will you place on religious practices?
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13. **The Arts & Media**: How will you incorporate artistic pursuits in your utopia? How much freedom of expression will artists and the media enjoy? Who will control the media?
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14. **The Physical Structure**: What sort of landscape will you have? What will houses and buildings look like? How will they be arranged? What will the relationship between private and public space be? How and where will people live.
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15. **Law & Order**: What sort of system (or systems) will be needed to deal with those who break rules or those who harm others? How will you address conflict resolution? How will you enforce the rules of your society?
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