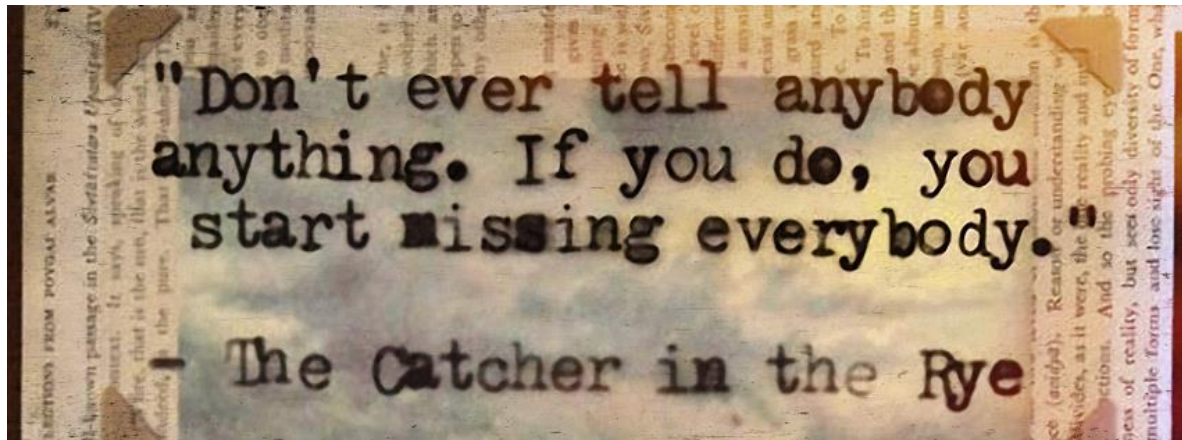


# *The Catcher in the Rye*

**J.D. Salinger (1951)**

Little, Brown and Company



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PER \_\_\_\_\_

El Segundo High School  
English 11 Honors  
Summer Reading Assignment

**INSTRUCTIONS:** You must have completed reading both J.D. Salinger's novel *The Catcher in the Rye* and this homework packet before the beginning of the 2019/2020 school year. I have scheduled a reading comprehension and literary analysis exam on the novel in the first week of school.

**This packet is due the first day of school. Please see the rubric on page 2 for completion directions.**

## HOMEWORK PACKET SCORING RUBRIC

<b>POINT RANGE</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
<b>25 - 23</b>	Student's responses to questions are clear, effective, and demonstrate a thorough critical understanding of the text in developing insightful answers. Answers are coherently organized, with ideas supported by apt reasons and well-chosen examples. Student's work is original, thoughtful, and complete. The work is generally free from errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics; writing style is effective and fluent, marked by syntactic variety and a clear command of language.	
<b>22 - 20</b>	Student's responses to questions are clear and demonstrate a critical understanding of the text in developing insightful answers. Answers are well organized, with ideas supported by apt reasons and well-chosen examples. Student's work is thoughtful and complete. The work may have a few errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics; writing style is effective, marked by some variety and facility in the use of language.	
<b>19 - 17</b>	Student's responses generally address the topic, but may slight some aspects of the task; responses demonstrate a generally accurate understanding of the text in developing plausible answers. Answers are adequately organized, with ideas generally supported by reasons and examples. Student's work is thoughtful and complete. The work may have a few errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics; writing style is effective, marked by some variety and facility in the use of language.	
<b>16 - 0</b>	Responses are comprised largely of superficial analysis, tending to discuss the obvious, showing a lack of imagination or insight. Answers generally lack coherence and often fail to use sufficient or accurate evidence or reasoning to prove an argument. The work in general is lackluster, sloppy, carelessly composed, and obviously was denied the serious and scholarly attention it was expected to receive.	

**\*\*Any homework packet that is incomplete cannot receive a score higher than 15 points.**

**\*\*Handwriting that is illegible due to careless transcription will be regarded as incomplete. If your penmanship cannot be read, it cannot be graded.**

**PART I. Vocabulary:** Using a dictionary for assistance, match each term with its definition.

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. ___ atheist       | A. <i>n.</i> misgivings; doubts   |
| 2. ___ blasé         | B. <i>n.</i> torturer   |
| 3. ___ bourgeois     | C. <i>adj.</i> unimpressed or indifferent to something because one has already experienced it |
| 4. ___ burlesque     | D. <i>n.</i> influenza  |
| 5. ___ compulsory    | E. <i>n.</i> one who believes that God does not exist   |
| 6. ___ falsetto      | F. <i>n.</i> platform; podium   |
| 7. ___ grippe        | G. <i>n.</i> voice or sound that is unusually or unnaturally high                             |
| 8. ___ incognito     | H. <i>n.</i> a variety show, typically including striptease                                   |
| 9. ___ pedagogical   | I. <i>n.</i> a person who turns their head to stare at something in a foolish manner          |
| 10. ___ qualms       | J. <i>adj.</i> of or relating to teaching   |
| 11. ___ rake         | K. <i>adj.</i> of the middle class  |
| 12. ___ rostrum      | L. <i>adj.</i> violation or misuse of what is regarded as sacred                              |
| 13. ___ rubberneck   | M. <i>n.</i> a fashionable or wealthy man of dissolute or promiscuous habits                  |
| 14. ___ sacrilegious | N. <i>n.</i> an assumed or false identity   |
| 15. ___ sadist       | O. <i>adj.</i> unnecessary  |

**PART II. Response Questions:** Respond to the following questions in well-organized paragraphs.

16. As the novel begins, where is Holden physically located? What state? What city? What type of a facility/structure does he appear does he narrate from?
17. What type of time sequencing appears in this work? Why do you feel the author chose this type of chronology?

18. Why does Holden leave school prior to the beginning of Christmas vacation? What attitudes are implied by Holden's final words to his Pencey classmates, "Sleep tight, ya morons!"? What does this indicate about his personality? Do you feel Holden's feelings are authentic?

19. Holden uses hyperbole throughout the novel. Select a statement that is hyperbolic, and discuss why you believe Holden feels the need to exaggerate. Structure this response as a Say/Mean/Matter with a lead-in, quote, a mean, and a matter and a citation.

20. While in the taxicab, Holden asks the driver where the ducks go in the winter. Why do you think he is concerned about these animals? How is the question contrary to the facade Holden exhibits in public?

21. Holden acts and appears older than he actually is. Discuss three examples of this behavior throughout the novel. What does he do to impress others with his "maturity"? How does this often backfire?

22. What are Holden's attitudes toward his siblings?

Phoebe

DB

Allie

23. What indicates Holden ambivalence toward Sally Hayes? Why does he ask her out on a date?

24. Think about the people Holden encounters throughout the novel. Who does he genuinely like? Why do you think he likes these people?

25. Phoebe tells Holden that he has misinterpreted the Robert Burns poem, "Coming Through the Rye." How so? What is the vision Holden elicits from the song? How does Holden's misinterpretation reflect both his tragic flaw and his heroic character?

26. What goes wrong when Holden visits Mr. Antolini? Could Holden have misinterpreted Mr. Antolini's intentions? How so?

27. At what point is it clear that Holden is on the verge of a mental breakdown?

28. As Holden watches Phoebe on the merry-go-round he has an epiphany. What is that epiphany? Why does this realization of truth also destroy Holden?

29. Is Holden a different character at the end of the novel from the young man introduced at the beginning? If so, how? If not, why not?

### CONSIDERING THE OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK

**Directions:** After reading the novel, complete the comparison and contrast chart given below. (please supply enough information to fill in the chart using normal sized writing)

	Chapter 1	Chapter 26
SIMILARITIES		
	Chapter 1	Chapter 26
DIFFERENCES		

30. What conclusions can you draw about Holden from the observations listed above?

**PART III. Important Quotes:** For each of the following quotes, identify:

- The context in which it is said (dramatic situation)
- What Holden (or the speaker) really means
- How the quote relates to one of the following themes
  - Isolation/Alienation
  - Loss/Death/Failure
  - Growing up/Sexual exploration

For questions 29-40, find a quote that...

29. ...describes how Holden feels about the general experience of leaving. (Ch. 1)

30. ...describes Holden's attitude toward Mr. Spencer's philosophy on life. (Ch. 2)

31. ...describes Holden's opinion of himself as a liar. (Ch. 3)



32. ...describes Holden's own definition of his hat. (Ch. 3)

33. ...describes Holden's attitude toward sex. (Ch. 9)

34. ...describes how Holden feels about the Museum of Natural History. (Ch. 16)

35. ...describes Holden's attitude toward burial when he dies. (Ch. 20)

36. ...describes what Holden wants to do with his life. (Ch. 22)

37. ...describes Mr. Antolini's concern for Holden's future. (Ch. 24)

38. ...describes Mr. Antolini's advice regarding Holden's reaction to human behavior. (Ch. 24)

39. ...describes Holden's reaction to seeing Phoebe on the carousel. (Ch. 25)

40. ...describes Holden's reason for why he should not "tell anybody anything." (Ch. 26)

41. Finally, the character of Holden Caulfield has inspired extreme affirmative and undesirable emotions. Some readers view him as an iconic outcast, the voice of a displaced generation, a minor god of the misunderstood, while others, especially of your generation, consider him a whiny malcontent, a pathological liar, and a wayward mental patient. What is your opinion of Holden? Are you drawn to him or repelled by him. Does he inspire your sympathy or your disdain? Can you relate to his journey or are you at odds with his plight? Please explain in detail using evidence from the novel to support your argument. Please write a full page.