



Bishop Donahue High School 2012-2013..... Summer Reading List

Over the summer, each student entering the grades below, are required to read all of the books listed. Upon returning to school, the students will be tested on the knowledge gained from reading each of these books. They will also be required to hand in, on the first day of school, any accompanying assignments provided for each book.

9th grade:

- 1) "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck
- 2) "Animal Farm" by George Orwell
- 3) "Dead Man Walking" by Sr. Helen Prejean

10th grade:

- 1) "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger....
SUMMER STUDY QUESTIONS.... Due 1st day of class....At end of this document
- 2) "Tuesday's with Morrie" by Mitch Albom.....
SUMMER STUDY QUESTIONS.... Due 1st day of class....At end of this document
- 3) "Dead Man Walking" by Sr. Helen Prejean

11th grade:

- 1) "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien
- 2) "1984" by George Orwell
- 3) "Dead Man Walking" by Sr. Helen Prejean

12th grade:

- 1) "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls...
SUMMER STUDY QUESTIONS.... Due 1st day of class....At end of this document
- 2) "The Color of Water" by James McBride
- 3) "Dead Man Walking" by Sr. Helen Prejean
- 4) "Life After Life" by Dr. Raymond Moody
- 5) "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo

**Sophomore Summer Reading....."The Catcher in the Rye"
Study Guide Questions....Due to the first day of class**

Chapter 1

1. What does Holden mean when he says that his brother D.B. is out in Hollywood "being a prostitute"?
2. Where is Holden as the story begins?
3. Where and what is Pencey Prep?
4. How did Holden let the fencing team down?
5. Why was Holden being kicked out of Pencey Prep?
6. What kind of health does Holden appear to be in?

Chapter 2

1. Who is Mr. Spencer and why does Holden visit him?
2. What did Spencer do that particularly annoyed Holden?
3. What does Holden give us as the reason for "leaving" Elkton Hills?

Chapter 3

1. What does Holden mean, "I'm quite illiterate, but I read a lot"? Give examples of what he reads.
2. Who is Ackley? Describe him.
3. What does Ackley do that annoys Holden?

Chapter 4

1. Who is Stradlater? Why does Holden refer to him as a "secret slob"? What does he look like?
2. What point does Holden try to make about people when he talks about Stradlater and the "commas" and Ackley's description of the basketball player?
3. Why did it make Holden nervous that Stradlater was going out with Jane Gallagher?

Chapter 5

1. Who is Allie, and why is his baseball mitt so special to Holden?
2. Why did Holden's parents want to have him psychoanalyzed?

Chapter 6

1. What do Holden and Stradlater fight over?
2. Holden says that he is a "pacifist". What is that, and is he?

Chapter 7

1. Why does Holden suddenly decide to visit Ackley's room?
2. Where does Holden then decide to go?
3. What is his final good-bye to Pencey Prep?
4. Why do you think Holden was crying as he left?

Chapter 8

1. What does Holden mean when he says, "Mothers are all slightly insane"?
2. What are some of the lies Holden tells Mrs. Morrow? Do you think he's as sorry for them as he stated?

Chapter 9

1. Holden calls other people phony. In what way is he one?

Chapter 10

1. Who is Phoebe, and what is Holden's opinion of her?
2. What evidence is there that shows us that Holden probably doesn't look as old as he says he looks?

Chapter 11

1. What was the past relationship like between Holden and Jane?

Chapter 12

1. What do Holden and the cab driver talk about?
2. Why does Holden leave Ernie's?

Chapter 13

1. Previously Holden stated he was a "pacifist". Does his description of how he would deal with the "glove thief" support this, or is he just "yellow"?

Chapter 14

1. Does Holden have any guilt feelings about Allie? Do you feel this is abnormal in any way, or normal?
2. What made Holden cry?
3. What evidence shows us that Holden might have made a good actor?

Chapter 15

1. What is the point that Holden tries to make about people when he elaborates about the suitcases of the nuns and of his former roommate?
2. How does Holden treat the nuns?
3. Why does Holden think it spoils a conversation if someone asks what religion he is?

Chapter 16

1. Who does Holden make a date with? Why does he call her up if he thinks she's a phony?
2. How does Holden treat little kids? Give an example.
3. Does Holden know his way around the city? What does this tell us about him?

Chapter 17

1. How do Holden's feelings for women compare to his feelings for men?
2. How does Holden feel about actors? How does he feel about The Lunts?
3. What is Holden's point about the difference between men owning a car and men owning a horse?
4. How does Holden describe a boy's school when talking to Sally?
5. Why does Holden want to take off with Sally now instead of after college? What's the difference in his eyes?

Chapter 18

1. What is Holden's opinion of the Christmas show at Radio City?
2. Why did Holden think the woman who cried through the movie was a phony?

Chapter 19

1. Why did Holden get mad at Luce for calling his (Luce's) old girlfriend the "Whore of New Hampshire"?
2. Who was Luce to Holden?

Chapter 20

1. How does Holden "act" again in this chapter?
2. What happens to Holden at the Wicker Bar?
3. What happens to Phoebe's record?
4. Where does Holden go right after he leaves the bar?
5. What information does Holden finally tell us about Allie's funeral?
6. What does Holden say about Allie that contradicts all his other statements about being an atheist?
7. After he leaves the park, where does Holden go?

Chapter 21

1. What does Holden find so intriguing about Phoebe's note- book?

Chapter 22

1. Why did it depress Holden when an "old guy" told him that his days at Pencey were the happiest days of his life?
2. What does it tell us about Holden when Phoebe states, "You don't like anything that's happening"?
3. Why does Holden think about James Castle when Phoebe asks him to name one thing that he likes a lot? Why does he deny really knowing James? What does it tell us about Holden when he says, "Just because somebody's dead, you don't just stop liking them, for God's sake---especially if they were a thousand times nicer than the people you know that're alive and all"?
4. What does Holden tell Phoebe he'd like to be?

Chapter 23

1. Who is Mr. Antolini?
2. How does Phoebe cover for Holden when their parents come home?
3. In talking with her parents how does Phoebe "sound" like Holden?
4. What does Phoebe do that makes Holden cry?
5. What does Holden give to Phoebe?

Chapter 24

1. Why did Holden fail his speech class?
2. How does Holden feel physically while he talks to Mr. Antolini?
3. What does Holden say about him hating people, such as Ackley and Stradlater?
4. What does Antolini's quote mean, "The mark of the immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one"?
5. How does Antolini upset and scare Holden?

Chapter 24

1. Later, after he has had time to think about it, what does Holden think about Antolini?
2. Why does the article on hormones upset Holden?
3. What strange feeling does Holden start to have when he steps off of curbs?
4. Why does he keep repeating, "Allie, don't let me disappear"?
5. What does Holden decide he must do next? Where does he first go?
6. With all the bad language that Holden uses, why was he so upset that curse words were written on a school wall?
7. How does Holden treat the two small boys in the museum?
8. Why is it so important to Holden that Phoebe not be mad at him? Relate this to his past, and Allie.
9. What does Holden mean when he states, "The thing with kids is, if they want to grab for the gold ring, you have to let them do it, and not say anything. If they fall off, they fall off, but it's bad if you say anything to them"?
10. What is the carousel symbolic of?

Chapter 25

1. At the conclusion, where is Holden?
2. What was the past relationship like between Holden and Jane?

Chapter 26

1. What does Holden mean when he says, "Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody."?

Sophomore Summer Reading....."Tuesday's With Morrie" Study Questions.....These are due the first day of classes!!!!

1. What is wrong with Morrie?
2. Describe Albom's life.
3. How did he come to be reunited with Morrie?
4. Choose one of Morrie's aphorisms and explain how you can apply it to your own life
5. Why does Morrie have a great deal of friends? How does this strike you?
6. According to Morrie, what should we be teaching in the classroom called "life?" Do you agree with him? Explain why or why not.
7. Reflect on Morrie's comment, "Dying...is only one thing to be sad over, Mitch. Living unhappily is something else." List below those things that make you happy.
8. Pick a quote and explain why you find it to be helpful.
9. In what ways do you agree or disagree with Morrie's perspective on self pity?
10. What do you regret?
11. Who is close to you? What makes him/her important?
12. How is Morrie's family important to him?
13. According to Morrie, why is family important?
14. Pick a statement said by Morrie that you find to be important. Write down the quote, page number, and then explain why you find it to be important.
15. What do you feel about the Koppel interviews? Were they useful? Explain why or why not.
16. How was Albom's graduation unlike a typical graduation?
17. Who was Morrie Schwartz?
18. Tell me about a good friend.
19. From the impression left on you after completing the book, what are those things that make life worthwhile?
20. "I hope that one day you will think of me as your friend." Page 25 Were Albom and Morrie friends?

Senior Summer Reading.....“The Glass Castle”
Summer Reading Questions....Due the 1st day of class.

1. Though *The Glass Castle* is brimming with unforgettable stories, which scenes were the most memorable for you? Which were the most shocking, the most inspiring, the funniest?
2. Discuss the metaphor of a glass castle and what it signifies to Jeannette and her father. Why is it important that, just before leaving for New York, Jeannette tells her father that she doesn't believe he'll ever build it? (p. 238).
3. The first story Walls tells of her childhood is that of her burning herself severely at age three, and her father dramatically takes her from the hospital: "You're safe now" (p. 14). Why do you think she opens with that story, and how does it set the stage for the rest of the memoir?
4. Rex Walls often asked his children, "Have I ever let you down?" Why was this question (and the required "No, Dad" response) so important for him -- and for his kids? On what occasions did he actually come through for them?
5. Jeannette's mother insists that, no matter what, "life with your father was never boring" (p. 288). What kind of man was Rex Walls? What were his strengths and weaknesses, his flaws and contradictions?
6. Discuss Rose Mary Walls. What did you think about her description of herself as an "excitement addict"? (p. 93).
7. Though it portrays an incredibly hardscrabble life, *The Glass Castle* is never sad or depressing. Discuss the tone of the book, and how do you think that Walls achieved that effect?
8. Describe Jeannette's relationship to her siblings and discuss the role they played in one another's lives.
9. In college, Jeannette is singled out by a professor for not understanding the plight of homeless people; instead of defending herself, she keeps quiet. Why do you think she does this?
10. The two major pieces of the memoir -- one half set in the desert and one half in West Virginia -- feel distinct. What effect did such a big move have on the family -- and on your reading of the story? How would you describe the shift in the book's tone?
11. Were you surprised to learn that, as adults, Jeannette and her siblings remained close to their parents? Why do you think this is?
12. What character traits -- both good and bad -- do you think that Jeannette inherited from her parents? And how do you think those traits shaped Jeannette's life?
13. For many reviewers and readers, the most extraordinary thing about *The Glass Castle* is that, despite everything, Jeannette Walls refuses to condemn her parents. Were you able to be equally nonjudgmental?
14. Like Mary Karr's *Liars' Club* and Rick Bragg's *All Over But the Shoutin'*, Jeannette Walls' *The Glass Castle* tells the story of a wildly original (and wildly dysfunctional) family with humor and compassion. Were there other comparable memoirs that came to mind? What distinguishes this book?