

Wednesday Catcher Reading Guide

Melissa

Vocabulary p.1-8

Ostracized- Exclude (someone) from a society or group

“The whole team ostracized me the whole way back on the train” (Salinger 3)

After Holden forgot his team’s fencing equipment in the subway, they all shunned him, which goes to show that he is not good at making friends.

Stooped- To bend your body forward

“I mean he was all stooped over, and he had very terrible posture...” (Salinger 6)

This shows how Mr. Spencer is old and weak and that he doesn’t have enough strength to hold himself up which creates a sad tone.

Dough- Money

“He’s got a lot of dough” (Salinger 1)

Instead of using the word “money” he choose to use “dough” which shows that his character uses a lot of slang words which shows he might not speak with high vocabulary.

Alex
Vocab:
pages 9-16

Crude-A rude or vulgar action.

"It was a very crude thing to do, in a chapel and all, but it was also quite amusing." (Salinger 17)

The use of this word sets the tone of the passage by describing a rude action that took place in a place of worship.

Qualms-Uneasiness or concern about something.

"Do you have any particular qualms about leaving Pencey?" (Salinger 14)

The use of this word advances character development by demonstrating Mr. Spencer's attempt to empathize with Holden.

Compulsory- Required by rule

"He didn't say anything then, but the next night he made us have a compulsory study hall in the academic building..." (Salinger 17)

Using this word shows that the character who issued the study hall had authority and power.

Emma
Vocab
17-26

qualm (n)- an uneasy feeling of doubt

“Do you have any particular *qualms* about leaving Pencey?” (Salinger 17)

The use of qualm, an unusual and somewhat pretentious word to use, shows the high status of the school and how the teachers are highly educated.

compulsory (adj)- required by rule

“...but the next night he made us have compulsory study hall in the academic building...”
(Salinger 20)

Because the study hall was compulsory, or mandatory, it showed the stringency of the rules at Pencey.

chiffonier (n)- a tall chest of drawers

“...picking up your personal stuff off your desk and chiffonier.” (Salinger 23)

The addition of the description chiffonier helps the reader visualize the setting of the dorm room.

Catcher thought questions

Tom - Thought Questions - Pages 1-8

What does this section reveal about Holden's character? Is there a certain tone being used to convey this? Explain.

What does Holden's use of words such as "goddam" and "crap" show about the maturity of Holden? Why is his maturity so important to this part of the story?

How does Holden relate to modern day teenagers like ourselves? Explain using similarities and differences.

Matt - Thought Questions pages 9-16

What does Holden becoming annoyed at old Spencer after he repeats some phrases multiple times show about his character? (Page 10 last paragraph)

Even though Holden and old Spencer seem to have a good relationship (Holden sprints to his house and Mrs Spencer greets him like a friend), why does Holden seem like he hates old Spencer during Holdens' final meeting with him, and then becomes emotional when he leaves? (Page 11- bottom of page 15)

How is balance of contradictions shown in this section? Holden acts sophisticated and kind when he talks to his professor, but is also very annoyed when Mr. Spencer calls him "boy" and wants to leave soon after his arrival.

Ariel - Thought Questions pages 17-26

How is a balance of contradictions shown between the narrator's school work and his love of reading? What does this contradiction show about the narrator? (Page 18, connecting back to page 10)

The narrator is not a great student. His teachers feel he doesn't apply himself and he is failing most of his classes, yet he loves to read. Reading is an activity typically enjoyed by sharp minded people who would not so adamantly hate school work and would not do so poorly in school. This balance of contradictions shows that the narrator's problem in school is not a lack of intelligence, but something else.

What is/are the of tone(s) of the narrator's comments to and about Robert Ackley? Do the tones of his different comments ever create a balance of contradictions? (23-24)

What is the tone with which Stradlater is speaking to the narrator? Is this tone strange considering the narrator will be leaving the school? Why or why not? (25-26)

Robert

The passage I choose was on page two and it is the last half of the page. It begins with “Anyway, it was Saturday”.

The concept is:

Outcast/Fitting In

The narrator is acting as an outcast by standing alone over watching the football game from the top of Thomsen Hill. If he wanted to fit in with the others at Pencey he would have been down on the bleachers with “Practically the whole school” (Salinger 2) cheering along with them.

Reading Due – 26 to 52

Annemarie Horn

Vocab pg. 26-35

Exhibitionist (29): a person who behaves in an extravagant way in order to attract attention

“All I need’s an audience. I’m an exhibitionist” (Salinger 29).

Holden has a sarcastic sense of humor because he was joking about being a good tap-dancer, when, in reality, he is not.

Liberate (30): to set (someone) free from a situation

“Liberate yourself from my viselike grip” (Salinger 30).

Since Holden is weak and Stradlater is strong, Holden may have wanted to feel strong and powerful for just a few seconds.

Conceited (34): excessively proud of oneself

“You couldn’t rile him too easily. He was too conceited” (Salinger 34).

Due to Stradlater’s arrogance, it is difficult to make him irritated. Stradlater rarely listens to insults because of his excessive pride.

Ben – Vocab 36-44

Psychoanalyzed: To be tested for mental health

“they were going to have me psychoanalyzed and all, because I broke all the windows in the garage” (Salinger 39).

It lets us understand that even Holden's parents felt like there was something wrong with their son, and they thought he needed help.

Unscrupulous: Not right; bad

“I know what I’m talking about. He was Unscrupulous (underlining just stopped working here). He really was” (Salinger 40).

Since Holden think’s Stradlater was a bad person because of his tone and words, we can make an inference that he is jealous and wants Jane to be his girlfriend.

Linoleum: Shiny material you put on floors

“Anyway, the corridor was linoleum and all, and you could hear his goddamn footsteps” (Salinger 40).

Holden's attention to detail is a very interesting topic. Instead of being insane or messed up, he may be a very short-attention spanned person who likes to look at random details.

Rey 45-52

Page (46): "I'm not too tough. I'm a **pacifist**, if you want to know the truth" (Salinger 46).
(A person who believes in Pacifism or is opposed to war or to violence of any kind).
A person who hates to fight or doesn't like violence of any kind.

Page (47): "Listen I said do you feel like playing a little **Canasta**" (Salinger 47).
(A variety of cards in which the main object is to meld sets of seven or more cards).
A card game for two to six players who seek to a mass point's by declaring sets of cards.

Witty (48): "Ackley said what a **Witty** guy. How about turning off the light" (Salinger 48).
(Clever in speech and writing; amusingly clever in perception and expression).
An Intelligent and clever writer. As good as his own writing.

Sherman/ Thought Questions Page 26-35:

Thought Questions Page 26-35(Chapter 4)

1)How does Holden's interaction with the people around him show about his character's unique personality?
(Page 27-28)

Tom – Holden is definitely unique – one minute he is nice to Ackley inviting him to the movies – thinking inside – Ackley is a greasy dirty bad kid – he always says others are phonies – never lets his true feelings be known to the people he is talking to

Matt – exact same thing happened when he was talking to Mr. Spencer – in his head – just wanted to leave when he got there

Robert – being nice to his teacher – not calling him names – or cursing him out – but maybe he could show his feelings to his peers...

Jordan – since he is getting kicked out wouldn't care what he says his teacher...I'm not getting kicked out

2) Why is Holden so worried about Stradlater going on a date with Jane? And what makes Jane an important character? (page 31-34)

Caroline – needs to be an instigator for a problem – in The Odyssey – Athena was the instigator – here it is Jane

3) Holden's hunting hat have been mentioned twice in chapter 4, What makes Holden's hunting hat so special to bring up? (Page 29 and Page 34)

Ally

Thought Questions 36-44

Do you think Holden's declining behavior in school was because of Allie's death? What is the tone when Holden is describing his brother and his death?

Ally – partially that – does not have anyone to lean on – feels like his parents gave up on him and sent him to different schools – no brother to lean on – traumatic experience

Emma – one thing – Holden has a low opinion of himself – does not think he is anything great – looks at Allie – this amazing person in his eyes died in a terrible way – makes him wonder what will happen to himself – didn't have a good ending – why should I?

Do you think Holden was upset that Stradler didn't like his paper on Allie's baseball mitt because the mitt was important to him or because he was ungrateful? When Holden ripped the paper up, what did that show about his character?

Tom – Holden acts like he is tough and everyone is terrible – he is not an angry character – he is a confused teenager – does not know what to do – does not feel that this is where he should be – does not feel at home

Why do you think Holden was so worked up about Jane and how Stradler treated her/ what he did with her?

Caroline

Thought Questions 45-52

Do you think the previous events of the night affected the way Holden immaturely acted with Stradlater? Why? Or why not? (pg 45)

How does the way Holden handles his feelings for Jane show how his past has affected him?

Ben – I think that since Allie has died – showed that he was unable to talk to people about it – just smashed windows with anger – talked about his feelings usually helps people – attacked Stradlater...anger all the time because of that

How does Holden running away from Pencey relate to comfort versus adventure? What does Holden fleeing show about how he reacts under pressure? How is the way Holden act different from the way Odysseus would have acted?

Robert – Keeps saying “I really am” – he is telling the story – so people might not believe him – same thing with O. Negating that.

Ariel – how does the fact that Stradlater all boys boarding school affects the way he feels about girls?

Sherman – comfort vs adventure – he feels comfort when he leaves – his adventure to leave –

Ariel – Sleep tight you morons – trying to show I don’t care about you guys

Caroline – might have also said that for closure

Tom

Pages 1-8

What does Holden’s use of words such as “goddam” and “crap” show about the maturity of Holden? Why is his maturity so important to this part of the story?

Holden is 16 yet very immature. He appears to have no regard for his future or anybody or anything around him. This is shown when Holden says, “I wasn’t supposed to come back after Christmas vacation, on account of I was flunking four subjects and not applying myself and all.” Holden explains his expulsion very relaxed as though he is not bothered that he has been kicked out of school. This shows that he is unable to grasp the severity of his consequences and is not mature enough to look after himself and make good decisions.

Matt

How is balance of contradictions shown in this section? Holden acts sophisticated and kind when he talks to his professor, but is also very annoyed when Mr. Spencer calls him “boy” and wants to leave soon after his arrival.

Holden shows a contradiction of being both sophisticated and immature during this section of the reading. During Holden’s conversation with Mr. Spencer, he is kind and polite when he answers Mr. Spencer’s questions, despite being very irritated with Mr. Spencer, especially when he calls Holden “boy” and talks about Holden’s’ essay about the Egyptians. Even though he thinks childish in his head during his conversation, Holden responds to Mr. Spencer’s questions with logical, polite answers. In other words, Holden was able to keep his composure despite

desperately wanting to perhaps yell at Mr. Spencer for calling him “boy” and storming out of his house. In this way, Holden shows that he can be both immature and sophisticated.

Ariel

How is a balance of contradictions shown between the narrator’s school work and his love of reading? What does this contradiction show about the narrator? (Page 18, connecting back to page 10)

The narrator is not a great student. His teachers feel he doesn’t apply himself and he is failing most of his classes, yet he loves to read. Reading is an activity typically enjoyed by sharp minded people who would not so adamantly hate school work and would not do so poorly in school. This balance of contradictions shows that the narrator’s problem in school is not a lack of intelligence, but something else.

Sherman

2) Why is Holden so worried about Stradlater going on a date with Jane? And what makes Jane an important character? (page 31-34)

Holden known Jane before and he shows care for her when he is asking Stradlater all those questions. Holden also likes Jane and he does not want Stradlater to get in between them. Jane feels like an important character later on, because it may cause tensions between Holden and Stradlater.

Ally

Why do you think Holden was so worked up about Jane and how Stradlater treated her/ what he did with her?

I think Holden was so worked up about how Stradlater treated Jane and what he did with her because he cared about Jane. Maybe he felt as though the only person from home he truly liked and had a mutual respect with was Jane. He may have felt that his parents sort of gave up on him and that is why they kept sending him to schools and Jane was the only other person he had who never acted like she gave up on him. Because his brother died and could have felt that his parents gave up on him, Jane was the only other person who didn’t lose hope in him, even if it was when they were younger. Because of that, he got worked up because he didn’t want to see or hear about her getting hurt or played by Stradlater, which made him angry.

Caroline

How does Holden running away from Pencey relate to comfort versus adventure? What does Holden fleeing show about how he reacts under pressure? How is the way Holden act different from the way Odysseus would have acted?

Holden acts as though he needs to protect Jane from the evilness of the world. His brother, Allie, died to a disease to which was not curable in that case; therefore, Holden could not save him. Holden feels as if he needs to save Jane. Holden says he “is going mad” about the idea of Jane and Stradlater together.

Reading Due 53-80

Sophie

Vocab p. 53-65

Conscientious- Take care in what you do. Do things with purpose opposed to just getting it done. Do a good job.

“Some of the faculty are pretty conscientious” (Salinger 55).

It shows how much pressure is being put on Holden at school. If the teachers were more laid back, he might not have been failing 4 of his 5 classes and still be in Pencey.

Crumby- Disgusting

“It’s really too bad that so much crumby stuff is a lot of fun sometimes” (Salinger 62).

To say something is crumby is nicer than saying it’s disgusting. It shows that although he uses a lot of slang and curses a lot, he’s still innocent. Even when talking about things such as sex, like in this scene, Holden still tries to act as innocent as possible which is contradictory to the way he normally speaks and acts.

Peculiar- Strange, uncommon

“This is certainly a peculiar time to call a person up, though” (Salinger 65).

It shows that Holden doesn’t care much about others. If he wants to go out for a drink in the middle of the night, he will find someone to go with him. It shows he has determination.

Merritt Shelton

Group 3 vocab pgs. 66-72

Putrid (adj) - Very unpleasant, repulsive

“The band was putrid.” (Salinger 69).

The use of this word shows how Holden felt about how badly they were playing.

Suave (adj) – charming, confident, and elegant

“I didn’t ask them crudely or anything. Very suave, in fact.” (Salinger 70).

Using suave really emphasized that the character tried to act confident while

asking the girls to dance.

Immaterial (adj) – unimportant under the circumstances; irrelevant

“It’s immaterial to me,” she said.” (Salinger 72).

Because the girl thought it was immaterial of her to dance with him, it shows that

she thinks she is better than him.

Zach

Witty: amusing (p. 75)

“The other ugly one, Laverne, thought she was a very witty type,” (Salinger 75).

The use of this word shows that he is closely judging the people he is talking to. He seems like he does not like Laverne and Marty because they are not as good at dancing as Bernice.

Immensely: to a great extent

“I improved her game immensely,” (Salinger 77).

He was describing how much he helped her. He is saying this to show that he was good friends with Jane.

muckle-mouthed: wide or crooked mouth

“She was sort of muckle-mouthed,” (Slinger 77).

He was describing Jane Gallagher and he is trying to create a picture of what she looks like.

Sydney:

Thought Questions pages 53-65:

When Holden boards the train after he leaves Pencey, he meets Mrs. Morrow. Why would the writer choose to make Holden answer this woman's questions? Does it give the reader any insight into the character's decisions? How is this tantalizing for Holden? (pages 54-55)

Ally – shows insight how he thinks – first instinct is make something up...Rudolph Schmidt – scared – first impression on this mom – so he lies...he does find her attractive

Sydney – bloody nose – not so suave?

Leora – H is lying – he is good at lying – does not think much of himself – finds it hard to let people in – really lonely

Caroline – might also – he just left – if he tells this woman this truth – concept – unrequited love!!! Who he can and who he can't have

How is not being able to decide who to call on the phone similar to the rambling on the first page? What does this show about Holden? (page 59)

Annemarie – H is indecisive – can't focus on a topic – can't settle on someone to call – shows how his mind works

Emma – doesn't have anyone to call – feels like his parents – out of school – the only person to talk to his younger sister – nobody his age to rely on...

Why does Holden remember the ducks on the Central Park pond at this time? What could these ducks represent? (pages 13- first mentioned and 60)

Ben – first time Old Man Spencer – in NYC does not know what hotel he will go to – does not know where he will go – him moving on past something – does not know who to call – symbolic – but why does he actually ask that? Birds fly south – don't they – doesn't everyone know that but he doesn't think like most people – opposite track than others

Jordan – just feels comfortable telling his sister – needs to tell someone
Fefe Thought Questions 66-72

1. Why is Holden so interested in dancing with the 3 "dopey" 30 year old women when he thinks of them as so unattractive and stupid?
2. What is the tone when Holden describes his sibling's behaviors and mindsets? How do these behaviors and mindsets compare to that of Holden?

Sydney – admiring his sister as if he was in love with her...trying to replace Allie with Phoebe?

Melissa – bragging on how smart Phoebe is – relating how smart Phoebe and Allie were – live in the moment – not take anything for granted with her scared of losing her

Zach – like the doctor story – describing the girl patient – obviously a lot older than she – H older than sister...saying it in ways...

Ben – roller skate skinny – good athlete

3. How does Holden's behavior change as the setting of the story changes from Pencey to New York?

Jordan

1. What does Holden show about what he thinks of himself when he keeps on referring to the girls looking for movie stars as if they were expecting them (and ignoring him)?

2. What tone is shown when Holden is being very judgmental and critical of everything the 3 women do?

3. How does Holden suggesting that Ernie doesn't talk to people (including Holden) unless they are big shots relate to when he mentions the women looking for movie stars the entire time rather than listening to what he is saying?

Leora

Concept: Loneliness vs. Accompaniment

Within the first ten pages (from 53-80) you can see how lonely Holden is. He is standing in Penn Station in the phone booth and can't think of anyone to call for "support". Then Mrs. Morrow didn't want to spend anymore time with him and his driver didn't want to get drinks with him. Yet he didn't want to stay at any hotel on the upper east side because he was afraid that he would see someone that he knew. Holden not only realizes his loneliness, but he points out other people's loneliness, "I saw one guy, a gray-haired.../ He was all alone, too" (Salinger 60). And finally when he decided to call someone it was a friend of a friend and she couldn't go out with him. If you think about a rich, prep school guy you might assume that he has lots of company and being at a boarding school Holden still finds ways to be lonely.

Sydney

How is not being able to decide who to call on the phone similar to the rambling on the first page? What does this show about Holden? (page 59)

It is similar because in both instances Holden wants to do something, whether it was calling a friend or family member, or deciding how to start a story. Holden is not an extremely committed person because he decides to do something, but then backs out after he started. He does not have the will to accomplish a task, shown both with the phone and with his school subjects. He has done this multiple times throughout the book, including when he explained the entire backstory behind the baseball glove.

Fefe

What is the tone when Holden describes his sibling's behaviors and mindsets? How do these behaviors and mindsets compare to that of Holden?

Holden describes his siblings as almost to the point the exact opposite of him. He makes sure to point out his sister's intelligence, Allie's kindness, and D.B.'s success. Each of these traits are ones he greatly lacks, resulting in a resentful, jealous tone.

Jordan

What tone is shown when Holden is being very judgmental and critical of everything the 3 women do?

It shows that he is lost and he doesn't know what to do with his life because he is alone- this is also shown when he was going to call his sister, but he doesn't because he is afraid that his parents would pick up the phone. This shows that he feels uncomfortable talking with many people and that there is only one person he would want to talk to, and now he is trying to distract himself by finding problems of others rather than focusing on his own.

Reading due 81-104

Robert Britto 81-87 vocab

1) **Hoodlumpy** - A thug or gangster looking person most likely part of a gang

“Now and then you saw . . . a bunch of hoodlumpy - looking guys and their dates” (pg 81).

This shows how Holden views the neighborhood he is in and the people who live there.

2) **Puke** - Throw up, vomit

“You should’ve heard the crowd, though, when he was finished. You would’ve puked” (pg 84)

This shows his feelings towards people when they think about something differently than he does.

3) **Flitty** - Something that looks homosexual

“This Joe Yale - looking guy, in a . . . flitty looking Tattersall vests (pg 85)

This shows how he has an instinct to judge people in what seems to be in a homophobic way and based on their material goods like clothes.

Vocabulary: 88-95
Matt

Galoshes: a waterproof overshoe that protects a shoe from rain. (page 88)

I'd have gone to his closet and found the gloves somewhere. Hidden in his goddam galoshes or something.

Holden said that he would find his stolen gloves in someone's galoshes because it is an unlikely place to find a pair of gloves, but Holden wants to believe that he has outsmarted the thief by looking in the most unexpected places. Similar to other places in the story, Holden thinks or plays out scenarios in his head in which he is better than the other person he is thinking about or talking to.

Chateau: a country estate, especially a fine one, in France or elsewhere on the Continent. (page 93)

He had this big chateau and all, on the Riviera, in Europe, and all he did in his spare time was beat women off with a club.

Holden used this word because he wanted to associate rich men with being violent towards women. He does this because he is somewhat biased against rich, snobby people, which he has shown in previous parts of the story. When he mentions that the man was rich, it reassures himself that rich people aren't as perfect as they seem.

Conversationalist: a person who enjoys and contributes to good conversation. (page 96)

She was a lousy conversationalist.

Holden saying that Sunny is a lousy conversationalist shows his experience with conversing with other people, and he believes that his conversing skills are superior to Sunny. He says this while he begins to doubt Sunny and starts to find all of her unfavorable characteristics after he had just been complementing her. This relates to Holden's earlier encounter with Mr. Spencer, which at first he was optimistic about the meeting but then became irritated with his teacher and started pointing out all of his flaws and wanted to leave his home.

Ariel Goldman
Vocab 96-104

Chisel: to obtain something using unfair or shrewd methods

"You're trying to chisel me" (Salinger 101).

This word shows that Holden believes Sunny and Maurice are morally unjust in trying to intimidate him into giving him another five dollars.

Plugged: an informal term for shooting someone or something

I sort of started pretending I had a bullet in my guts. Old Maurice had plugged me" (Salinger 103-104).

Holden fantasizing that Maurice plugged, in other words shot, him shows that Holden wishes it had taken more to take his money.

Rubbernecks: an informal term for people who turns their heads to stare at something in a manner that is foolish

"I felt like jumping out the window. I probably would've ... if I'd been sure somebody'd cover me up ... I didn't want a bunch of stupid rubbernecks looking at me when I was all gory" (Salinger 104).

Holden worrying about rubbernecks looking at him after he commits suicide when he is thinking about committing it shows how his mind works. He thinks about little details others would not think about, in this example the rubbernecks, but thinks less about the big picture, in this example losing his life.

Melissa

Thought Questions p. 81-87

1. Why did Holden ask the taxi driver, Horowitz, about the ducks and the pond after what had happened with the first taxi driver? Why is Horowitz so enthusiastic about the ducks and fish in the frozen pond?
2. Why did Holden think Ernie was a phony and a snob and why did he get angry when the crowd applauded him?
3. What can you tell about Holden's character when he is listening and making fun of other people's conversations when he is at Ernie's nightclub?

Thought Questions 88-95

Alex

- 1) What does this passage (88-89) show about Holden's character? Is he a coward? Explain.
- 2) What tone is present in the section of the passage? What does it say about Holden's changing and deep feelings? Is Holden possibly suffering from depression? (3rd and 4th paragraph page 90)
- 3) What does Holden's confession on page 92 show about him? Is Holden an honest guy?

96-104

Emma – thought questions

1. What do the constant mention and mixed feelings about the movies show about Holden's character?
2. How does Holden's need to get to know the prostitute before he sleeps with her relate to his relationship with Jane?
3. What does Holden's feelings toward "that lunatic and all, that lived in the tombs and kept cutting himself with stones" (Salinger 99) show how he views himself?

Sherman – depression? He had many challenges to face and he is young – Odysseus had to face obstacles and still had to take care of the suitors when he got home – H suffering a lot

Sophie – on 104, Holden is very human – he says he is crazy – everyone feels this way once in a while – first he lost his brother – pressure to be best in school – he goes to this school and he tries to be – the feeling of being the hero – everyone has this breaking point – stuff after school and tests – pressure to get into college – throw everything out the window maybe even ourselves – sometimes we cry in the corner and eat ice cream

Matt – he feels alone – feels everyone against him – takes it out doing certain things – bad stuff happens and nobody to turn to – internal anger he can't get out

Ariel – H is cynical – all of the movies mainstream culture is bad and annoying – does not like any of it

Caroline – life is full of bipolar emotions – when something good happens something bad happens to it – suicide cowardly – does not want to deal with his responsibilities...runs away from the school...

Sydney – most of his issue – he lives in his head – seems like a coward but he thinks it later – thinks about what he should have done

Melissa – adding on to Caroline – reason he hired prostitute – he wanted someone to talk to – spill out what he was feeling to somebody – he knew she would listen –

Alex – H's character – he is a loner and a jerk – making fun of these other people – shouldn't listen to other people's conversations

Jordan – to add on to Caroline – trying to distract himself this whole time – talking about the three women's issues – judging their issues to avoid his – they went to NY for all the wrong reasons

Merritt – wanted someone to talk to – he didn't get enough attention – said he wanted to commit suicide – rubbernecks – does not want that kind of attention – balance of contradictions

Robert – Ernie a phony who bowed when he didn't deserve the applause but he got it anyway – never gets any attention for him

Fefe – I just feel like not with any question in particular – he is so immature –m wants to commit suicide – respectfully disagree with Caroline – tries to acts so mature – sunk deeper into the quicksand of immaturity even as he hires the prostitute

Tom – Holden's character – Ernie's – later in the book – his dad is rich – people in this scene the same wealth class as him – it is his crowd, but he still feels like an outsider...

Emma – pretty evident that H is a loner – judgmental at jazz bar and those three girls – at the same time – exhibitionist and keeps trying to get other people's approval – how would he look as a dead body on the sidewalk?

Annemarie – p104 – he gets carried away with his imagination and over-exaggeration – always trying to be someone he is not – the people in the movies seem perfect – he tries to be like them but he can't.

Sherman – trapped anger – trapped in an endless loop of depression – more confused than depressed does not know what to do with his life.

Emma

How does Holden's need to get to know the prostitute before he sleeps with her relate to his relationship with Jane?

Before Holden ordered the prostitute, he was felt upset about the fact that Stradlater went on a date with Jane, and he reminisced about the time that he and Jane spent together. He liked Jane for her personality rather than her looks. He earlier described her by saying that he "wouldn't describe her as strictly beautiful...sort of muckle-mouthed" (Salinger 77). However, he was still infatuated with her. He cared more about the way that she played checkers and the conversations that they had together than something as superficial such as the shape of her mouth. He felt as if she were unlike other girls in that they could be together without him having to flirt with her or tease her to gain her attention. Instead, they could talk easily and without sexual pressures. At some level, when he ordered the prostitute, he wanted to feel as though he were spending time with Jane once again. He later realized that the prostitute would not fill the void that the absence of Jane left, and this devastating reality caused him to want to send her away. In stark contrast to Jane, the prostitute was pretty, but she was unsurprisingly not a fantastic conversationalist.

Alex

What does Holden's confession on page 92 show about him? Is Holden an honest guy? Holden's confession on page 92 shows that despite his negative past, he can still be very honest and trustworthy at times. However, earlier in the book and up to this point, Holden has also pointed out and admitted to being a liar and being very good at it. So, Holden might not be a completely honest guy, but he can be trusted and honest.

Concepts

Will

Jealous vs Content

When Holden is in the cab driving to Old Ernie's he feels lonely and understands that he is lonely, however, when he sees and hears other men walking with their dates and laughing together he gets jealous of the fun they are having. He tries to make himself seem like he is not jealous by downplaying their laughing and calling their fun fake and stupid to make himself feel better about the fact that he is lonely and not content with that fact. Holden can't stop himself from being jealous of the guys he sees with their dates.

Reading Due 105-122
Will Rittmaster Vocab

Dough: Money (pg.118)

“I took the cab up to the park. I should’ve taken a subway or something, because I was getting slightly low on dough...”(Salinger 118).

Holden is going to eventually run out of money and if he does run out he might have to go home and get some more. Holden should be careful with the rest of his money and he should not waste it on anything such as a prostitute.

Phony: Fake, deceiving fraudulent (pg.116)

“I went over and bought two orchestra seats for I know My Love... I didn’t much want to see it, but I knew old Sally, the queen of the phonies, would start drooling all over the place when I told her I had tickets for that,...”(Salinger 116).

Holden wants to hang out with Sally even though he knows that she is the “Queen of phonies.” It doesn’t seem like he cares that much about her bad characteristics.

Witch doctor: a magician credited with powers of healing (pg.120)

“There was one very spooky guy in the back of the canoe, with a mask on. He was the witch doctor. He gave me the creeps, but I liked him anyway”(Salinger 120).

The witch doctor helps the reader understand what Holden find creepy. Normally Holden takes good situations and figures out a way to make them seem bad but in this case he is making himself feel better by doing the opposite.

Sherman

Vocab Page 105-115(Chapter 15 and 16)

Spendthrift (Noun)

Definition: a person who spends money in an extravagant, irresponsible way.

Sentence: "I, a goddam spendthrift at heart. What I don't spend, I lose" (Salinger 107)

He is talking about himself as a spendthrift. He wanted to act mature and try to become an adult. But he is being irresponsible by spending his money on places. This helps us understand more about his character and his intentions of wanting to change. But he is becoming an irresponsible adult by acting like that. He wants to be an adult but an adult that don't have to care for what a normal adult do. He chooses the features he likes from both age range, with no worries but can do what an adult can.

2) Bourgeois(Adjective)

Definition: of or characteristic of the middle class, typically with reference to its perceived materialistic values or conventional attitudes.

Sentence: "Everything I had was bourgeois as hell. Even my fountain pen was bourgeois" (Salinger 108)

Holden is saying that his property are all middle class stuff, which was not too poor or rich. But his roommate first described his stuff was bourgeois, Holden was fine with it until his roommate was not kidding about it because Holden had better stuff than his roommate. He feels like people is judging about his stuff.

3)Swanky(adjective)

Definition: stylishly luxurious and expensive.

Sentence: "they never went anywhere swanky for lunch. It made me so damn sad what I thought about it" (Salinger 114)

Holden puts a price on many things, and when he saw the nuns and said they never went anywhere swanky for lunch. It made him sad, which he couldn't live a life without his luxury feelings. He is very delicate when it comes to money because he worries too much about other people as well and how people look at him.

Rey – pages 116-122 thought questions

Q1: How does the part where Holding get the little Shirley beans and offers it to Phoebe and the part when Ravana offers the golden palace similar?

Q2: Why does Holding mention that he hates actors and movies, even though he goes to watch the movie with Phoebe?

Q3: Why do the kids at the park not like Holding when he tries to help the Kid who was losing, and the kid said him to leave what does it show about Holding's personality and character?

Sydney:

Catcher in the Rye Concepts: pages 115-122

Staying the Same (Young) vs Changing (Older)

Page 122 "I took my old hunting hat... with Sally, though" (Salinger 122)

Every Saturday Holden went to the Museum of Natural and everything was the same every weekend he went. Nothing every changed. He always looked forward to the trip and he thought the museum was one of the best places to be, it made him feel comforted. Now times have changed and his younger sister, Phoebe, is going to the museum weekly, following in his footsteps. The museum was always the same, but the people were always changing. When Holden visits the museum now, it no longer holds any captivating appeal for him. the museum was still the same as when he was a child, but he is no longer a child, Holden had changed.

Ally

maturity vs immaturity

pgs 107-108, 114

Holden acts very immature when it comes to money. He also is a bit clueless when it comes to it as well. He spends money without a care in the world and then judges people for having cheap suitcases. He doesn't seem to act like he understands the impoliteness of judging people by their money (connecting to their class). This shows how Holden's character is immature when it comes to the subject of money and material objects. Even though he wants to act mature by saying and having lots of money, he just sinks deeper into the "quicksand" of immaturity the more he tries to act mature. (also a bit of **balance of contradictions** because sometimes Holden feels bad for the non wealthy for not having money (pg 114) and sometimes he gets annoyed at them for not buying nice enough materialistic objects (pg 107-108))

Rey

How does the part where Holding get the little Shirley beans and offers it to Phoebe and the part when Ravana offers the golden palace similar?

he two parts are really similar to each other because in both stories both liked each other, Ravana liked Sita and Holden wanted to impress his sister that he is a good brother. Ravana offered Sita

his Golden Palace because Sita fell for the Golden Deer so Ravana knew exactly what Sita liked but she kept on Refusing and Holden bought beans took her to the Movies to impress her so this is some bit related to the Ravana and Sita scene.

Tom – Holden feels lonely – not much human meaningful interaction – even though he does not know the girl – spend some time – get some hot chocolate – sees his sister in her

Fefe – relates to kids a lot better than adults – more in his element – trying to be so mature to the three women and the prostitute – fits in more with the kids

Caroline – to add on to what Fefe said – he describes her as a kid – he acts like a child but he thinks he is so mature

Ally – not lonely – crossing the line – does not know when to stop – stranger – go get hot chocolate? - does not know when to stop...

Leora – Holden has two different sides – sometimes he can be complaining but then he compliments people – indecisive – park is so bad

Ariel – he usually – strange – liked the politeness of the kid – often judges people for being too interested in themselves

Robert – shows how Holden does not care about anyone if they relate to himself – he is trying to change himself – mean to the kids same age same school in Pencey Prep – trying to be with people opposite of him

Emma – he really admires Phoebe – skate in the same place – reminding himself that they are related similar – not so different after all – maybe I am great as well

Zach – agree with the mood – good side bad side – happy dancing with Berenice – bad mood out of nowhere once he stops dancing with them – change quickly

Matt – roller skate skinny – Phoebe is free and carefree and playful and childish – recognized the skate key in the pitch dark 50 years from now – a piece of him that will always be young...

Ben – he thinks he is somewhat mature – but he keeps stating that he acts like a kid all of the time – hitting on the mother – takes it too far...still has time to do all that – when kids are kids they don't want to grow up

Ariel – maybe the reason he wants to grow up is that he is not happy with what he is now – a 3 year old I know is happy being little – but he wants to move on to a new stage

Ally – maturity thing – every single time he tries to act maturely – he acts immaturity – the more he sinks into quicksand of immaturity like Fefe said yesterday – just acting himself because he feels mature compared to the kids

Jordan – he is remembering the old days before he was in trouble – going to the museum as a kid – wonderful – Phoebe will see what I saw

Sydney – comparing himself to Phoebe instead of Allie – he views himself as an older pHoebie – the activities things they do and following his footsteps

Emma – wanting to put people in glass cases so they don't move – last time he was there Allie was alive – Holden lost his innocence – just a carefree kid safe in the movie theater – losing his innocence – if it weren't for Allie dying he wouldn't be trying to act so mature

Annemarie – museum represents his childhood – every time you go the museum – you are different – the museum is not changing you are changing – also not wanting to go on the date with Sally

Robert – last 24 hours not the best time – clear that he wants to grow up – adult life – trying to hold on the only really good parts of his life – a child when Allie was alive...

Melissa – to add on to what Robert said – Holden living in the past – afraid of the future – does not know what will happen in the future – at least some good memories in the past

Caroline – already mentioned that he wanted to kill himself twice – distract himself from what is life is really like – a child who can't deal with his emotions

Will – after all of the bad things to Holden past 24 hours – one thing that would make him better would be to go inside the museum – when he explained all the stuff inside...almost like he was already in the museum...mistake...

Sherman – Holden knows and still remembers a lot about the museum even though he hasn't been to it lately – the one trapped in the museum and not wanting to change...

Fefe – he keeps saying all this stuff about not liking change – balance of contradictions – get older but I hate change

Leora – museum as is safe haven – in that one place at home almost...

Sophie

Acting pages 105-106

Holden stands near the phone pacing back and forth.

He picks up the phone, shakes his head, then sets it back on the table.

He finally picks it up again and dials.

Holden: Sally?

Sally: Yeah? Who's this?

H: It's Holden Caulfield.

S: *Very loudly* Oh my god! Holden!

Holden jerks the phone away from his ear then slowly brings it back.

H: Yeah it's me. I wanted to know-

S: *Enthusiastic but somewhat fake* How are you?

H: *Flatly* Swell. Listen would you like to go see a matinee today?

S: I'd love to. Grand. Hey did I tell you about this college guy from Harvard?

Holden sighs and starts to get more frustrated

He keeps calling me like *every* day and like *every* night.

Holden's about to throw the phone against a wall

And there's this other guy at West Point-

Sally's words fade

H: Shut up! Just shut up you're killing me! I don't care about these stupid guys trying to win you over. I don't care about your life in general. I only called you up because I have no one else to turn to and... you're pretty hot, but that's beside the point! You're a phony so just forget the damn matinee.

There's a long pause

S: Holden? Holden are you still there?

H: What?

S: Have you been ignoring me this whole time?

H: No. I- I wasn't. I was just... lost in thought.

Another pause

S: What's going on it that head of yours Holden?

Holden doesn't respond. He sinks to the floor and clears his throat.

H: So you want to meet me under the clock at the Biltmore at two o'clock?

Sally doesn't seem to notice anything wrong

S: Grand.

She hangs up and Holden lets his head drop into his hands

Why did you chose that scene as important?

It's a perfect example of one of Holden's many contradictions. He wants to go out with Sally mainly because he doesn't know who else to call and/or doesn't want to call the people he does want to talk to. So Holden sets up this date and even before he gets off the phone, Holden is having second thoughts. He wants to tell Sally to forget it but doesn't say anything. By the end of the reading, Holden wishes that he never made that date with Sally.

What does it show about the characters?

It shows that Holden is lonely and wants some companionship but he over complicates everything. He could have called Jane, the one he really wants to go out with, but he's too worried about talking to her mother. Holden doesn't consider that Jane's mother will just pass the phone to Jane with no questions. He always see the bad side of things and it just makes life more difficult for him.

Why did you chose to act it out the way you did?

I wanted to show both sides of Holden. There's the side that he presents himself as, the mature, polite, fun-loving, and social Holden, and then there's the lonely, depressed, approval seeking Holden that he doesn't want anyone to know about. I wanted to show what both sides would do in this situation and the internal struggle that Holden faces. It also gives the audience a look at what's going on inside of Holden's mind because sometimes the most outgoing people are also the most miserable.

Reading Due 123-157

Sydney Vleck

Vocab: pages 123-133

Raspy: page 123

“He was one of the biggest bores I ever met. He had one of those very raspy voices, and he never stopped talking” (Salinger 123).

Definition: harsh or grating

This word is used to describe the kind of voice Holden’s roommate used to have. Holden put up with Harris Macklin, the roommate, for two months because he was a good whistler. Harris Macklin was a boring person who had nothing to talk about, but he talked anyway. By describing his voice as raspy, it shows that Holden did not enjoy listening to him speak. By creating a character who enjoys talking, but does not have a voice that is enjoyable to listen to, it shows a balance of contradictions.

Nauseating: page 127

“You should have seen the way they said hello... Old buddyroos. It was nauseating” (Salinger 127)

Definition: causing sickness of the stomach

This was used to describe Holden’s reaction to Sally and her old friend saying hello. They talked as if they were old friends who had not seen each other in years, even though they barely knew each other. This kind of behavior made Holden sick to his stomach.

Oodles; page 133

“No, there wouldn’t be. There wouldn’t be oodles of places to go at all.” (Salinger 133)

Definition: large quantity of

Holden is trying to convince Sally to run away with him. He says there are so many places for them to go, but Sally wants to wait until after college. Holden believes that after college everything would be different and there would not be a lot of places to go. Sally is a more proper, by the book, kind of character, while Holden does what and when he wants.

Jordan

p. 137-151

Conceited- vain

"It's a funny thing about girls.... a bastard- very mean, or very conceited and all- and..." (Salinger 135).

This shows that since Holden is very jealous of this man that went out on a date with Jane, he makes fun of him to try and convince Jane that he isn't special, and he calls him cocky and a show off.

Sacrilegious- profane and sinful

"...fancy costumes and all. Sally said I was a sacrilegious atheist" (Salinger 137).

Holden is recalling a time that Sally called him a sinful atheist, which shows that he might be thinking about why Jane won't go out with him and pick up his calls- he is doubting himself.

Furlough-leave of absence

"I was practically a child at... on furlough and all, all he ever did was lie on his bed,..." (Salinger 140).

After the movie, Holden is once again admiring his brother by noting that he was in the army for 4 years, showing that he is down on himself and he's trying to detract himself on his own problems by admiring his brother's accomplishments.

Leora

1. Holden describes a lot of things as phony... "It was the phoniest conversation.../ At some phony party.../ He was the kind of phony that had to give themselves room" (Salinger 127). To what extent does Holden use this word as a "safety" or defense mechanism to cover/ hide his real feelings?
2. Why do you think that Holden got so jealous when Sally and George started talking? To what extent do Holden's judgments about other people cloud his own judgements from right and wrong?
3. Why do you think that Holden separates himself from other kids who are just like him? "The jerk had one of those very phony, Ivy League voices" (Salinger 128). Holden is in a preparatory school which is seen as one of the best.

Merritt

Thought Questions Pgs. 134-144

Why does Holden always reference characters in movies or movie theatres and what does this show about his character? (pg. 134)

When Jane says her boyfriend had an inferiority complex, why does Holden find this funny?

What is the Irony of this part? (Pg. 135-136) When Holden went to see the Rockettes at Radio City and the guy on rollerskates came on stage, he said he couldn't enjoy the performance because it was stupid and he wasn't in the right mood. How does the part show "rollerskate skinny," and how Holden has never been able to enjoy it? (Pg. 137)

Zach

Do you think Holden thinks he uses good vocabulary when he says "goddam" or "God's sake" because after talking with Luce who said these words nearly every sentence, Holden said Luce had a good vocabulary (Salinger 146-149)?

Does Holden seem like he is telling this book to a psychoanalyst now that he says he will go see one? p.148

Even though he was extremely drunk, was telling the piano teacher that he was great at the piano even though he thought he was horrible show maturity? p. 152

Fefe - page 130

concept: having boundaries vs. taking things too far

This concept relates to the passage because there is a distinct and sudden change in tone in the passage. At first, Holden is nonchalant and well behaved, speaking to Sally about trimming the Christmas tree. The story takes a sharp turn when he gets extremely excited about school, and his hatred of it. He begins to scare Sally as he steps over the boundaries and takes it too far. Holden seems to have a knack for getting himself into these types of situations, and seems to continuously get to a point where he can't help but take a conversation too far and scare off those closest to him.

Caroline

The Catcher in the Rye Concept (pgs 132-133)

For my Catcher in the Rye concept, I decided to do acting like a coward and acting brave. When Holden asks Sally to run away with him he is not only being selfish he is also being a coward. Holden does not want to face his problems. He does not think how this will affect Sally and her family as well as his. Holden becomes upset with Sally because she tells him the non-sugar coated truth; she says his plan is insane. Holden does not want to think that he wants to think that there is an alternative other than facing his problems and the messes he has created.

Another Cather in the Rye concept shown in this scene is recklessness and responsibility. Holden asks Sally to run away with him yet he has no plan or money. He also does not have a full education or real life experiences. Running away from his problems will lead him into sinking deeper in the quick sand of messes he creates.

Art of Persuasion is also shown in this passage. Holden fails to come up with acceptable reasons as to why they should run away. He has no money nor a plan and shelter to live in.

Leora

Why do you think that Holden got so jealous when Sally and George started talking?

To what extent do Holden's judgments about other people cloud his own judgements from right and wrong?

I think that Holden has a tendency to not realize what he has until it's gone, so the second something of his is "threatened", so to speak, he steps in and puts his guard up. Holden constantly criticizes and mocks other people and then loses sight of what is truly important which affects his grades, relationships, etc... We have seen this before with Odysseus because he never realized how much he had until he had nothing, no wife, no son, no palace. Holden also focuses a lot on the bad and not too much on the good which affects your attitude and perspective because results depend on what you make of it.

Reading Due 157-180

Emma - Vocab

Plastered: drunk

“...I broke it on the way home...I was plastered” (Salinger 163).

Holden mentions to his sister that he was drunk the other night. This shows that they are extremely close, and that she is his confidant. Also, the casual way that he mentions his drunkenness shows how it is not out of the ordinary for him to get drunk.

Grippy: sick

“...Alice had a cold, and her mother kept asking her the whole time if she felt grippy.”

Both Phoebe and Holden use slang words, which is a similarity between the two of them. The slang words and small vocabulary are a sign of her “age appropriate immaturity”, which at times Holden seems to have as well.

Ostracize: to exclude someone

“She was ostracizing the hell out of me” (Salinger 166)

Phoebe was upset with Holden because he constantly was getting into trouble. His trouble making was putting a strain on their family, so she was ignoring him as a form of punishment. This shows that even though they were close, Phoebe realized that Holden shouldn't continue to act out, and that he needed to start to try harder

Robert Catcher Thought Questions

Pg (157 – 169)

Why does Holden wait to wake up Phoebe, when she is the only reason he is there?

Does Holden consistently saying “ old Phoebe” show him not wanting her to change?

Is the ranch in Colorado that Holden might go to after New York the same place as the place in the start of the book?

Tom - TQ 170-180

Why does Holden connect the nuns with the boy who killed himself James Castle?

Why does Holden think about Allie even when with Phoebe? Does this show the connection between Allie and Phoebe considering Allie died when he was 10.

What does Phoebe and Holden’s chat on page 177 show?

Melissa Concept p.157-158

Sneaky vs Honest

After Holden gets really drunk, he finally decides that he wants to visit Phoebe even if it means getting caught by his parents. It has already been two days since Holden left Pencey and he still hasn’t even told them that he is in New York. He devises this plan to sneak into his apartment and talk to Phoebe without letting his parents know. Instead of sneaking around, he could have just told his parents that he got kicked out because they were going to find out sooner or later, so he could have saved his money and just slept at home instead of at a bad hotel. In this passage it shows how cowardly he is because he is too scared to face his parents and tell them the truth. Even if they did get mad at him, they would have respected him more if he told them the truth rather than trying to hide it from them. This not only shows sneaky vs. honest, but it also shows coward vs. brave and mature vs. immature

Alex Concept

Trust vs. Distrust (pg. 65) (165?)

The concept of trust vs. distrust relates to this section of the story because Holden trusts his little sister, Phoebe, more than anyone in the world, yet he hardly trusts his own parents. He shows his trust in her when he acknowledges the fact that he got kicked out of school, because Holden has failed to let even his own parents know his recent dismissal from Pencey.

Ariel

My Catcher concept is shown in the passage on pages 176 through 177 from the words “You cross your legs” to “my heart was beating like a bastard” (Salinger 176-177). My concept is escape vs. reality. When Holden is indulging Phoebe in her belief that she can do silly things to make her forehead hotter he is demonstrating escape, because he is escaping from the reality that he was kicked out of school and is hiding from his parents with the temporary diversion. This

“escape” provides temporary relief from Holden’s “real life” problems, but it does not solve them. When Holden’s parents return and he has to hide from them he is brought back to the reality of his situation and becomes nervous as he hides from them, contrasting the joy he had just felt with Phoebe.

Reading Due: 180-193

Key Pages 185-189

Thought questions

Q1: Why does Holden describe his teacher Mr. Vinson in a negative way and what does it show about Holden's character?

Q2: Why does Holden interrupt Mr. Antolini on the important topics and changes the topics so Holden won't hear what Mr. Antolini has to say?

Q3: Why doesn't Holden ask for a Cigarette when Mr. Antolini is having one, although Holden loves to smoke?

Matt

Pages 167-172

Concept: Being excited vs. change of heart and being irritated

On the top of page 167, Holden notices his sister's haircut and asks her who gave it to her, and she responds with "None of your business." Holden then thinks to himself, "She can be very snotty sometimes. She can be quite snotty." Holden calling Phoebe snotty is an example of him being excited and involved in a conversation, but then a slight action can change his entire attitude. A similar situation occurs with Holden and his teacher, Mr. Spencer, when Holden is saying his final goodbye. Holden starts the conversation with enthusiasm, but as the conversation progresses and Mr. Spencer starts to talk about Holden's sub par grades, Holden becomes annoyed with Mr. Spencer and points out many slight characteristics or actions by his teacher that irritate him. He performs similarly during his conversation with Phoebe when he begins the conversation with excitement, but then becomes quickly annoyed when his sister is acting "snotty."

Sophie

Acting pages 186-187

Holden is sitting in a chair while Mr. Antolini paces behind him

Mr. A: Your father told me he got a letter from school. Cutting class, being unprepared.

H: I didn't cut. I just didn't really feel like attending some classes is all.

Mr. A: *Puts his arms on the back of Holden's chair* Holden, Holden, Holden. I don't know what to say.

H: Then don't say anything let me talk for-

Mr. Antolini shushes him

Mr. A: Holden. I feel like you're heading for some terrible fall.

H: Yeah that's kinda what I wanted to talk-

Mr. A: But I don't know what kind of fall.

H: What do you mean by that?

Mr. A: We gotta get you back on track my boy. Oh yes. Take you and *Claps hands together* ship you on

outa here.

H: But I don't want to go back to school.

Mr. A: Education is important!

H: Yes Mr. Antolini. I know education is important but I really want to talk about something.

Mr. A: Go ahead! Tell me all about how you flunked 4 out of 5 classes.

H: No, it's not school related.

Mr. A: *Raises eyebrows and leans in close* Oh. Tell me all about your lady friends.

H: *Face plants* No Mr. Antolini I'm being serious!

Mr. A: Would you like some more coffee? Or maybe some booze?

H: What?

Mr. A: I could use another drink right now.

Mr. Antolini stands to leave but Holden grabs his sleeve and pulls him back.

H: Mr. Antolini you're not listening to me.

Mr. A: Then just spit it out boy!

H: It's about this terrible fall you were talking about earlier. I think it already started because-

Mr. A: Ahhh yes. That reminds me. Listen Holden. Listen real well. Your fall is not like any ordinary fall.

No. This is a special kind of fall that doesn't let the man falling feel or hear himself falling. He just keeps

falling and falling and falling.

H: But what do you even mean-. *Pause* You know what? Never mind.

Mr. A: But do you follow me?

H: *Sighs* Yes sir.

Mr. A: Alright then. I'm going to go get another drink.

Why did you choose that scene as important?

I believe that Holden just needs someone who he can talk to about his life. It seems as though Holden trusts Mr. Antolini because out of everyone he could have called, he picked Mr. Antolini. There must have been some other reason that he called Mr. Antolini other than for a place to stay. Maybe Holden thought that he would understand. Plus Holden was being so open with Phoebe right before then, why not continue but with someone who could help him. Holden is always going on about how crazy he is, and how everything "kills" him, why not get some help?

What does it show about the characters?

It shows that Holden has trouble asking for help when it comes to big things. Little actions such as asking for a place to spend the night don't bother him, but other than that, Holden doesn't really know how to ask for help. It seems at times like Holden is trying to get Mr. Antolini to help him, but not with school. Mr. Antolini was spot on with the terrible fall Holden is going to and/or is already taking but doesn't do much to help him get back on track. It could have been

the perfect opportunity to tell someone about the daydreams of bullet wounds, the wanting to jump out a window, and all the death overall in Holden's life.

Why did you chose to act it out the way you did?

I chose to act it this way to show Holden trying to get help, trying to talk about his problems, but never succeeding. It's mostly because Mr. Antolini keeps talking about school and he's "hot" to have discussions so Holden can't get a word in. Mr. Antolini touches upon the subject of Holden's life spiraling out of control but doesn't really elaborate on it. When Holden finally has an opportunity to express himself, he doesn't take it. The opportunity is gone and he closes himself back up.

Reading Due 194-214

Jordan

1. What is shown of Holden's state of mind when at first he was so confident that Mr. Antolini was making a move on him that he left, where as now, he is questioning whether or not Mr. Antolini was making a move on him to the point that he is thinking about going back? (p.195)

It shows that after all that had happened to him, Holden now doubts his decisions a lot because he seems to make all of the wrong choices. It also shows that he feels guilty storming out like that because before Mr. Antolini was petting him, he was trying to help him out by pointing out that some of Pencey Prep's rules are not so bad after all.

2. How does Holden being overwhelmed affect his tone and his interpretations of everything around him? (p.195)

3. What does Holden recognizing the fact that he misses everybody (including Stradlater and Ackley) show about his current feelings? (Is he moving on because of the new opportunities that he has ahead of him)? (p.213-214)

Merritt

Catcher Concept (pgs. 201-207)
peaceful vs. distraught

The concept I chose, being peaceful vs. being distraught, is evident in this part of the story. It's shown at the beginning of the chapter, when Holden goes to Phoebe's school, he claims to see some phrase written on the walls which makes him agitated. This frustrates him because he doesn't want the little kids especially Phoebe to see it even though he knows he can't remove it. This continues when he visits the museum and goes to the mummy exhibit. Holden thinks he's crazy for feeling calm or peaceful while being alone in the room full of mummies yet, he doesn't mind because he is at ease for once. But, this is interrupted when he again, sees the same phrase 'written on the wall.' Basically, whenever Holden tries to act peaceful or normal, his mind and thoughts play him causing him to become agitated/do strange things. The phrase isn't actually written on the wall but his mind makes him think it is. This essentially makes him a distraught person.

Zach

p. 212

Concept: Lying vs Doing the right thing

In this section, Holden says that he will go home, and follows up on it. This relates to the concept because instead of not going home and continuing to pretend he is still in school, he is going to live with his parents instead of continuing his lies.

Rey

Why does Holding interrupt Mr. Antolini on the important topics and changes the topics so Holding won't hear what Mr. Antolini has to say?

Holding acting as he is tired so Mr. Antolini would just move on and Holding interrupting him on some parts like when he was talking about giving him an opinion on not cutting and which School he should go to. Holding hates somethings and he didn't like Schools so he avoids Mr. Antolini's suggestion , because he doesn't want to go back to School or any other place which he hates and he hates everything.

Leora – I believe that Holden's character has changed like Odysseus and Gilgamesh and Cai Yen changed – changing throughout time – in the beginning of the book he hates a lot of things – spo happy watching Phoebe – time is catching up with Holden and he is growing up

Matt – how he likes it – carrousel plays the same song 50 years ago – reminds him of the stability – flashback to when he was young – youthful days are passed him – recognizes how the carrousel plays the same song – makes him happy

Fefe – observation – can only feel happy when it is for someone else – feels so damn happy – because she looked nice and kept going around – so upset and alone – when she was mad at him she was upset and so was he

Tom – this connects to nostalgia a lot – when he hears Oh Marie playing on the carrousel – heard it 50 years ago – thinks that's nice that they play the same songs – he knows it is changing – I am catcher in the rye – I want to stop people from changing – hard for him to evolve...if he went home he could get yelled at and depressed again

Annmarie – missing his childhood – watching Phoebe doing something simple and having fun – no longer has fun doing those kinds of things

Emma – throughout the book – Holden has constantly reiterated – he wishes that childhood would last forever – the reason childhood is so special is because it is so finite...the whole carrousel thing – it plays the same song – looks at the horse that Phoebe keeps choosing – big brown and beat up – Phoebe still thinks it is the best horse...

Robert – I agree with a lot of people also – damn near bawling so damn happy – he spends his life avoiding living his life – keeps relating Phoebe to Allie – since Phoebe is mature and stuff, she can still have fun – she is being herself – hold on to your memories but still make new ones

Sherman – childhood – finite – connecting to the Odyssey concept of immortality/mortality – for Odysseus family is Holden's childhood

Caroline – round and round Phoebe on the carrousel – but he is still and can only control what happens to him

Ally – the reason he is so happy makes him think of his own childhood – brings back happy memories for him – symbol – a child going around their life...

Merritt – I agree with everyone who sees he has changed in this chapter – catcher in the rye earlier only happiness – saving the kids from falling down – youth - - if they fall off they fall off – wanting to catch them before....

Will – trying to keep her going carrousel realizes that he can't trap her in a box – glass case in a museum – keep her going on a carrousel as long as he can...

Ben – also want to relate to carrousel – same music same as it was 50 years ago – related to the museum – didn't want to go in – something he wanted to move on from

Ariel – Emma's idea – finite – gods because they have forever – gods never seem to be that interested – couldn't appreciate a lot of things – never too shocked or interested. Time had value for Odysseus...

Jordan – Holden moving on – I forget when he says it – when Phoebe says it to him – really coming home – now he has been yearning to talk to Phoebe all this time – moving on from the days when he couldn't talk to her...