

ELA III- College Prep.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

*Read the *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger and **complete assignment below.**

LITERARY RESPONSE: As you read, type a clear response for each question. Do not focus on making sure that you include *every* detail. Instead, focus on the *quality* of your explanation and/or analysis. You must use page numbers in the responses.

PLEASE follow the appropriate format: Times New Roman, 12 font, 1 inch margins, Double-spaced

FICTION

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

Part I.

Please choose your favorite symbol in *The Catcher in the Rye* and write a one page well- developed essay explaining how the meaning behind this symbol changes as Holden Caulfield changes from the beginning to the end of the novel. (suggested symbols: horses and the carousel, ducks and the duck pond, the red hunting cap, the Natural History museum, Hollywood and the movies, the adult world). Be sure that your thesis statement addresses the topic.

Part II. Choose a favorite song that reflects the mood, tone, or emotion expressed by Holden Caulfield at a particular point in his struggle to make sense of the world. Prepare a 5 paragraph essay and attach the song lyrics on a separate page. 1. Print the lyrics (at least those that pertain to your subject and be sure that the lyrics are the cover page with the essay stapled behind the lyrics). 2. Write your essay interpreting the theme of your song. 3. Be sure to explain how the theme, mood, and symbolism in the song reflects Holden's theme, mood, or tone in that scene or passage. Use evidence from the text *The Catcher in the Rye* to support your

claims. These would cover the 3 body paragraphs of your essay. Be sure that your thesis reflects Holden's internal struggles or conflicts.

Part III. We all have our Holden Caulfield "moments." Put yourself in Holden's shoes and write a one- page diary entry in J.D. Salinger's narrative style about a day in your life. (Just as Holden does, you are struggling to get along with difficult peers, adults, rules and regulations, the hypocrisy or "phoniness" of institutions (school, work, clubs and extra-curricular activities, and whatever else you find puzzling, frustrating, annoying, disheartening about your yourself and others during that hour or that day). Remember, Holden is also touched by rare, unexpected moments of gratitude and compassion even as he struggles. Write your diary entry in the first person. You might start like this, "It's the first day of school and the fourth teacher who is telling us everything we are supposed to remember for the rest of the year to do for that class..."