

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

English 11R  
Midterm Review

Catcher

~~The Catcher~~ in the Rye – Novel – J. D. Salinger

SETTING:

NYC 1950s

CHARACTERIZATION:

- Holden Caulfield -

cynical, sardonic (bitterly) / sarcastic  
pessimistic, self-alienating  
self-declared liar - troubled/haunted  
lacks self-awareness by Allie's death

- Phoebe -

wise, mature  
candid - very straight forward with Holden

Serves as confidante to Holden - \*forces Holden to face his issues + pessimism

- D.B. -

older brother -  
Holden sees him as a sell out

- Mr. Spencer -

tries to help

- Mr. Antolini -

tries to help -

Gives Holden the name of a therapist and encourages him to see him or he predicts Holden will have "a terrible fall"

Stradlater - handsome, popular  
the epitome of what Holden hates

Ackley - slovenly, yet Holden seeks his company

**CONFLICT:** Haunted by Allie's death - never dealt w/ grief → denial turns into bitterness (breaks windows night Allie died)

Internal Conflict -

External Conflict -  
Holden vs. The World/Society  
↳ Antisocial

**MOTIVATION -**

\* to be the Catcher in the Rye - to protect innocence - he couldn't save Allie, feels guilty

**SYMBOLISM -**

• Red Hunting Hat:

protection - wears it when feeling vulnerable - gives it to Phoebe, she gives back (Phoebe realizes that HE's the one that needs protection)

• Ducks:

Unlike the ducks, Holden cannot adapt to his environment. It has become inhospitable to him.

• Allie's Baseball Mitt:

Holden wants to hold onto the past when things were innocent and simpler. Allie's baseball mitt is special to him because it's a tie to his brother and to his youth/innocence.

• The Catcher in the Rye:

Holden's "dream" is to be "The Catcher in the Rye" so he can protect all youth - save them from a loss of innocence - like the one he experienced as a result of his brother's death.

**KEY EVENTS:**

-Allie dies

-Holden fails out of school after school

-leaves Pencey Prep

-Wanders city for days - bars, museums, etc.

-Carousel - realizes that the youth cannot always be protected - Phoebe forces him to realize this. It's the first time he's really happy.

-Seeks help at rest home - seems less cynical and willing to try and keep an open mind.

Another symbol:

**The Museum of Natural History** - where life stands still as Holden wishes; nothing changes; things are preserved (he wishes he could go back and preserve what was lost).

California

The Glass Castle - A Memoir - Jeannette Walls

SETTING:

Arizona, Battle Mountain, Welch W.V., NYC  
Moved around, sometimes homeless, rough conditions

CHARACTERIZATION:

Jeannette-

Self-sufficient - pays bills @ B  
motivated - creates oppty's for herself in NYC @ B  
independent - insists on paying own way  
resourceful - takes care of own needs (braces)  
appreciative - sees Venus as greatest gift  
resilient - stands up to parents; overcomes obstacles

Rex-

alcoholic  
charismatic/charming  
wise/intelligent

quirky/funny  
endearing @ times

Rosemary-

selfish  
mentally unstable

- creative - encourage  
- tough

- proud  
(wants to provide  
proud of)

Lori-

- eldest  
- responsible  
- more bitter

- helps her  
siblings "escape"

Brian-

- sensitive  
- level-headed

- brave

Mauve-

- doesn't fare as well - stabs Mom  
- fragile

- ends up abusing substances +  
does jail time

- Jeannette feels guilty - somehow let her  
down/didn't take care of her

**Motivation:**  
- to find a better life  
- to find her place in society  
- to understand her parents + their reasoning

**CONFLICT-**  
Internal- guilt about parents (esp. Dad)  
Angry yet Loves Them - Conflicted about place in life → doesn't feel comfortable on Park Ave either

External- vs Society

Dad - she loves him, but he squanders \$ on alcohol, she has to act like the adult - manipulates her.

**POINT OF VIEW:**  
J has a different view of things than her siblings - she has better relationship so has some better memories & less bitter

**SYMBOLISM:**

**The Half-Yellow House-**

Jeannette sees this as evidence that no matter how hard she tries, she will never make things better in Welch. Therefore, she has to leave in order to reach her goals

**The Glass Castle-**

Was a promise of hope/better life - soon evolves into a symbol of Rex's empty promises

**The Joshua Tree-**

"It's the Joshua's struggle that gives it its beauty" - Jeannette endures hardship + struggle But that's what gives her strength + beauty

## Key Events / Points

Venus as gift - Dad teaches them, loves them

Rex + Rosemary - teach them to chase dreams

Demon Hunting w/ Rex - teaches her to face her fears + take care of herself

Diamond Ring - mom keeps rather than use for necessary food, heat, shelter

Dad uses J. as bait to hustle money - his alcoholism is really impairing his judgment + puts J's safety at risk

Summer of Change - Lori decides to leave - sets Grandpa's plan in motion as well (OZ)

Move to NYC - J. is determined + resourceful - works v. hard to create opportunities + find success - graduates from Columbia!

Marries "safe" Man - Rex dies which causes her to re-examine her life - decides to divorce + move out of Eric's.

Texas land - Finds out they didn't have to be destitute all those years - J cannot comprehend why her mother would inflict that life style upon them

Peace w/ Dad - Before Rex dies, J comes to terms w/ her feelings to a degree

By the end, she resolves some of her feelings of guilt + realizes that life is a balance of order + chaos (like Rex's physics lesson - see last line of novel).

## The Crucible – A Play – Arthur Miller

### SETTING:

*Salem, MA 1692 - witch hunt hysteria*

### CHARACTERIZATION:

- John Proctor-
  - Complex:  
Has both good and bad traits - honorable man who has sinned
  - Dynamic (vs. Static):  
In the beginning, Proctor struggles with guilt because of his affair. His relationship with Elizabeth is strained - by the end, he's able to redeem himself and regain his honor; he has also mended his conflict with Elizabeth who believes that "he has his goodness now."
- Elizabeth Proctor-  
Proctor's wife - forgives him at the end
- Abigail Williams-  
Main antagonist - Creates much of the hysteria - leads the other girls; intimidates Mary Warren into lying; wants to get rid of Elizabeth so she can have Proctor to herself.
- Mary Warren-  
Changes her story after being intimidated by Abigail; flips on John Proctor and calls him "The Devil's Man"
- Reverend Hale-  
Also dynamic - pursues witch hunt until he realizes that the hysteria is driving the court and innocent people are being hanged;
- Reverend Parris-  
-Daughter is one of the "afflicted" - he's concerned mostly about his position and reputation;
- Rebecca Nurse-  
Represents pure goodness - midwife to Putnam's babies who died - the charges again Rebecca prove that anyone can be condemned.
- Thomas & Goody Putnam-  
Goody Putnam looking for someone to blame about babies; Putnam is land hungry and is accused to furthering witch trials so he can buy the land of those hanged

**CONFLICT:**

Internal (There are several for Proctor as the play unfolds)-

\* In beginning - struggles w/guilt over the affair  
At the end - to die honorably or live w/tarnished name

External -

Proctor vs. Courts/Hysteria

**MOTIVATION:**

In beginning - to make up for sin → saving Elizabeth.  
→ to maintain his good name

**CLIMAX:**

tears up confession (tears up confession)

**RESOLUTION:**

he accepts his own decision +  
faces hanging - Elizabeth forgives him  
"he has his goodness now."

**SYMBOLISM:**

The Crucible - test or trial - brings out  
true selves

**ALLEGORY:**

McCarthyism - Red Scare of the 1950s.

John has affair w Abigail  
(JP's internat. struggles w/ guilt)

↓  
Abigail accuses Eliz. to take her place

↓  
John confesses affair to expose  
Abigail's true motives  
(motivation: to save Eliz.)

↓  
Mary Warren - changes her story  
accuses Proctor of being  
"The Devil's Man"

↓  
To confess - signs witchcraft confession  
then tears it up (CLIMAX)

(Motivation: to save his good name)

→ Internal conflict: to die honorably

Resolution or ~~or~~ live w/ a tarnished name  
@ end: @ peace w/ his decision



PRACTICE QUOTE, INTERPRETATION, THESIS, & TOPIC SENTENCES

"Until one becomes the master of his own ship, he will merely be pulled along." - Made-up Person.

Interpretation: *People need to take control of their lives or they will just become victims of their circumstances.*

Thesis: Jeannette takes action as she gets older and is able to change her circumstances, while Holden remains a victim of his life until he finally faces his issues.

> t.s. 1 → Jeannette grows up in poverty, but instead of continuing that lifestyle, she moves to NY and works to create opportunities for herself.

> topic sentence Body 2: Holden does not try to do anything about his <sup>(depression stemming from Allie's death)</sup> misfortune and his life only shows signs of improvement when Holden finally does try to ameliorate it.