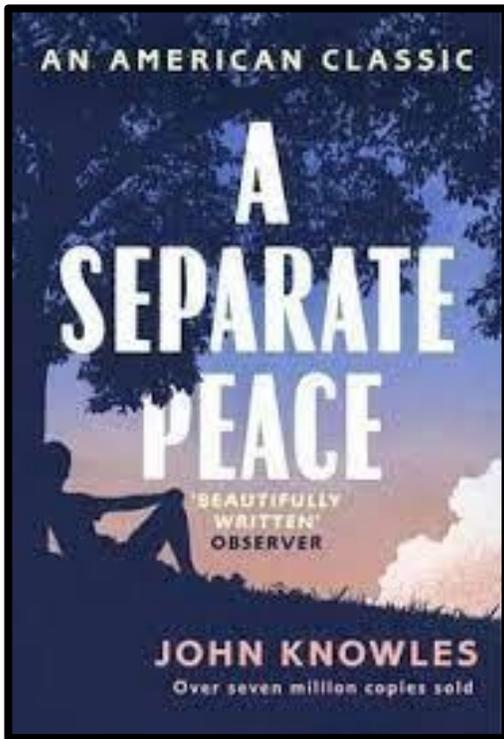


Summer Reading 2021

A Separate Peace by John Knowles



For this Summer Reading Project, students will be diving into the world of A Separate Peace. . A harrowing and exciting read by John Knowles. Students will follow the blooming friendship between Finny and Gene. However, after a fateful accident will their friendship be able to survive?

Students will:

- Answer Discussion Questions
- Identify theme, conflict, and plot
- Analyze character personalities and decisions
- Create a one-page visual representation of the novel
- Create a five-paragraph essay identifying elements of the protagonist
- Create a physical project that can be displayed in a gallery walk



SUMMER Reading

Socratic Seminar



Chapter Questions:

After completing your summer reading assignment, answer the questions below. This is a one page Q&A analysis, which will allow you to cultivate a deeper understanding of the novel.

Chapter One and Two:

- What is the protagonist looking for on his walk along the river? What caused him to comment that “the giants of your childhood, whom you encounter years later ... are similar in relation to your growth”?
- How are the boys affected by the war even though they are not in combat?
- Why does Gene jump?
- Why do the summer masters exhibit such unusual tolerance during the summer session?
- Why does the narrator envy Phineas?

Chapter Three through Five:

- Why does Finny feel the need to break the swim record? Why doesn't he care to publicize his feat?
- Reread the description on Gene in the ocean. In what way does his experience in the water parallel his relationship with Finny?
- Does the author want us to believe that Finny is jealous of Gene's academic superiority? Are we to believe that Finny is purposely destroying Gene's ability to study?
- Does Gene's feeling of guilt affirm that he caused Finny's injury to occur? Explain.

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your questions.

Don't Forget:

Be sure to incorporate textual evidence into each of your answers and share thoughtful responses.



SUMMER Reading

Socratic Seminar



Chapter Questions:

After completing your summer reading assignment, answer the questions below. This is a one page Q&A analysis, which will allow you to cultivate a deeper understanding of the novel.

Chapter Six and Seven:

- What is the contrast between the Devon School in the summer and in the fall?
- What does Gene now define as his new purpose in life?
- How do Gene's emotions affect his interpretation of the remarks made by Brinker and the other boys in the Butt Room?
- After the day of volunteer work at the railroad yard, why does Gene want to enlist? What causes him to abandon these plans?
- In what way does the snow symbolize the war?

Chapter Eight and Nine:

- In what way is Finny's behavior different in front of Gene than it was in front of the other boys?
- In what way does Brinker Hadley pose a threat to Gene?
- Why does Gene now have a sense of peace and the war seems increasingly remote?
- What feelings about the war are the boys hiding while they make jokes about Leper's imaginary exploits?
- Why does Leper's telegram seem so shocking, particularly as it arrives concurrently with the Carnival's end?

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your questions.

Don't Forget:

Be sure to incorporate textual evidence into each of your answers and share thoughtful responses.



SUMMER Reading

Socratic Seminar



Chapter Questions:

After completing your summer reading assignment, answer the questions below. This is a one page Q&A analysis, which will allow you to cultivate a deeper understanding of the novel.

Chapters Ten and Eleven:

- In a brief jump in time into the year 1943, how does Gene explain that the war continues to elude him even after he joins the army? Why do you think the author included this change in time?
- Does the army really change Leper, or does it make him understand the world more clearly? Explain.
- Why has the author had both Leper and Brinker cast doubt upon Gene's innocence?
- Is the trial a success or failure from Brinker's point of view? What do you think Finny means when he shouts at the end of the trial, "I just don't care"?
- Why do you think the author has both Finny and Leper fall short of actually declaring Gene guilty?

Chapter Twelve and Thirteen:

- Why do you think Gene has a fit of uncontrollable laughter after Finny's fall on the stairs? Is this a realistic response? Explain.
- What is Gene referring to when he muses as he looks at the approaching jeeps and tanks at Devon, "There is no stage you comprehend better than the one you have just left"?
- What enduring effect does Finny have on Gene?

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your questions.

Don't Forget:

Be sure to incorporate textual evidence into each of your answers and share thoughtful responses.



SUMMER Reading

Socratic Seminar



The Task:

After completing your summer reading assignment, answer the questions below. This is a one page Q&A analysis, which will allow you to cultivate a deeper understanding of the novel.

Questions to prepare for:

1. Which character/person in your reading did you connect with the most? Why?
2. Describe the climax of the reading: how did the story drastically change after that point?
3. What is the thematic statement of the reading? How is that theme revealed from start to finish?
4. Describe the main character/person from the reading. How does he or she evolve as the reading progressed from start to finish?
5. What does the reading suggest about human nature?
6. What is the major conflict in the reading? What struggles do the characters/people face and how do they face these struggles?
7. What decisions are made in the reading that you agree with? Which decisions did you disagree with? Why?
8. If you could rewrite this reading, what would you change? Why?

Be sure to incorporate textual evidence into each of your answers and share thoughtful responses. Also, be flexible and willing to respond to and ask questions of your peers - this is a discussion, not a circle of students reading their answers from a worksheet out loud.

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Choose at least three questions to prepare for
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your questions.
- OTHER:

Don't Forget:

Analyzing frequently and thoughtfully is key to deeper comprehension. This is your chance to showcase everything you know about your summer reading book!



SUMMER Reading

One-Pager



The Task:

After completing your summer reading assignment, you may create five-paragraph essay. This is a detailed five-paragraph literary essay regarding the protagonist. Remember to include textual evidence to support your claim

Essay Prompt: Consider the development of your protagonist from your summer reading book. Write a literary essay explaining how he or she changes throughout the course of the novel? Be sure to support your ideas with evidence from the text.

- NOTE: Your essay is essentially a characterization—an essay that examines and describes the traits, conflicts, and/(or) goals of a character.
- There are two different ways to organize your thoughts:
 1. Focus on three separate traits of the protagonist and how those traits change over the course of the novel. In this five paragraph essay model, each body paragraph focuses on one particular trait.
 2. Focus on three separate traits of the protagonist and how those traits change over the course of the novel. In this five paragraph essay model, each body paragraph focuses on a different part of the story: beginning, middle, and end.
- Select one of the options above and utilize the graphic organizers that correspond to your selection. Include a thesis statement to help organize/focus your essay.

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your response.
- Create an outline to help organize your thoughts before writing
- Ensure that you include an Introduction, Three Body Paragraphs, and a Conclusion

Don't Forget:

Also, remember that the design and thoughtfulness behind each of the elements you include is important.



SUMMER Reading

One-Pager



The Task:

After completing your summer reading assignment, you may create a one-pager. This is a detailed one page artistic representation of the major themes and ideas of the reading. If you've never seen one before, feel free to Google "one-pager" and you'll see lots of examples!

Directions for creating your one-pager:

1. Start with a blank piece of paper.
2. Collect coloring supplies and/or your computer for inspiration for images.
3. Use the following prompt to inspire the design of your page: what is the central theme of the text and how do the characters, plot, and setting reveal and shape this theme?
4. Design a one page collage that answers your question using the following:
 - a. A thematic statement that represents the reading
 - b. Text (quotes from the reading, individual words, etc.)
 - c. Images (symbols, characters, setting elements, etc.)
 - d. Color (think about mood and tone)

Be sure to incorporate textual evidence into your one-pager - this is a critical component! Also, remember that the design and thoughtfulness behind each of the elements you include is important. Show the layers of understanding that you gained from reading, not just the surface level observations that anyone could make from simply skimming.

To-Do List:

- Finish reading
- Sketch out a design for the one-pager
- Return to your reading and highlight the best pieces of evidence to support your questions.
- Put finishing touches on the one pager: outline in black, fill in with color, etc.
- OTHER:

Don't Forget:

- Take your time making your project look professional.
- Neatness and creativity count!



Summer Reading

assessment rubric



Name: _____ Project Type: _____

	A	B	C	D	F
Use of textual evidence	Evidence is accurately and thoughtfully incorporated; reveals understanding of the text	Evidence is accurately incorporated; reveals some understanding of the text	Evidence is utilized, but only partially reveals understanding of the text	Evidence is lacking; does not reveal understanding of the text	Absent
Understanding of central theme(s) and bid idea(s)	Product clearly identifies an accurate and thoughtful understanding of the central theme. Details included to help support	Product identifies an accurate and thoughtful understanding of the central theme. Some details included to help support	Product attempts to identify a central theme, but it may be oversimplified or contain inaccuracies. Lacking detail support.	Product struggles to identify a central theme, and contains inaccuracies. Lacking detail support.	Absent
Professional quality of product	SPEAKING: Speaks confidently, professional conduct with other students in presentation PHYSICAL: Product is neat, original, colorful, and professional	SPEAKING: Speaks mostly confidently, polite and respectful of peers PHYSICAL: Product is neat and professional, but lacks the “finished” quality of the “A”	SPEAKING: Speaks casually and occasionally lacks professionalism PHYSICAL: Product is completed, but feels unfinished due to lack of color, detail, etc.	SPEAKING: Speaks reluctantly, disrespects peers or doesn’t listen PHYSICAL: Product is incomplete and missing originality and color.	Absent

