

# *Catcher in the Rye* **Presentation**

Assignment Description  
Chapter 1 Example  
Assignment Guidelines and Rubric

# Assignment Description

The goal:

Teach a chapter to the class

Focus on:

Plot & Characterization

# Plot & Character

- **Places he visits**
- **People he meets**
- **Conversations he has**
- **Things he does**
- **Things he thinks about**
- **Side stories and tangents he tells**

**What do these things tell us about his character?**

# What is Holden not telling us?

- Read between the lines.
- What does his story telling & language imply?
- 2 examples with a quote

# Motif

Innocence lost

Contempt for adult experience

# Theme or Motif

Where does the reader see:

Holden fixed on innocence lost? and/or

Holden's contempt for adult experiences?

Or create a theme statement for the assigned chapters.

- 2 examples with quotes

# Catcher in the Rye

## Chapter 1

**By Thomas Berger**

# Plot & Character

# Chapter 1

- Near Hollywood
- Hospital (Implied)
  - Brother's visits
  - Crumby place
  - “pretty run down” and almost got tb
  - checkups

# Holden's Purpose for writing

- Christmas time memory
- “Madman stuff”
- Explaining why he is where he is

# Family

- Parents are “touchy”
- DB, brother, writer, sellout
  - Values art in its purity
- Wealthy family

# Holden's Actions

- Pennsylvania & New York
- Fencing match
  - Low self esteem
- Alone on a hill
- Observing the football game

# Tangent on Girls

- Selma Thurmer
  - Critical
  - Respectful
  - Knows proper manners

# Thoughts on School

- Pencey Prep
- Flunking out
- Old Spencer & Mrs. Spencer
  - Respectful towards elders and authority
  - Aware of class differences

# Tangent: Thieves

- The richer the school, the more thieves
- Not his first private school
  - Contempt towards the rich and thieves
  - His moral compass works

# **Tangent: Looking for a goodbye**

- Playing ball late afternoon
  - Sentimental

**What is Holden  
not telling us?**

# Exaggerates/Honest

“It was a terrible school, no matter how you looked at it” page 3

“They give guys the ax quite frequently at Pencey. It has a very good academic rating, Pencey. It really does.” page 4

# Depressed

“After I got across the road, I felt like I was sort of disappearing. It was that kind of a crazy afternoon, and you felt like you were disappearing every time you crossed a road.” page 5

**Motif/Theme**

# Loss of Innocence

“He used to be just a regular writer, when he was home...Now he’s out in Hollywood, D.B., being a prostitute.” page 1-2

# Contempt for adults

On Selma Thurmer about her father:

“...she didn't give you a lot of horse manure about what a great guy her father was. She probably knew what a phony slob he was.” page 3

**That's all  
folks...**

# Power Point Guidelines

- Introduction slide with names and chapters (1)
- Plot & Character (10-15)
- What he doesn't tell us (2)
- Motif/Theme (2)

# Power Point Guidelines

- Consistent Background.
- Font Size: at least 36.
- Use 2-3 colors. (Consistent)
- No distracting animation effects.
- Keep it simple & organized.

# Grade Criteria

- Slide Layout 25 Points

Consistent colors & background

No distracting animation

15 -20 Slides

Large text size

- Content 50 Points

Plot

Character

What he doesn't tell us

Motif/Theme

Individual Grade 25 Points

Know your part, Speak clearly, Don't read, work with your group.

# 100 Points Total