

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

English 2-Honors

North Augusta High School

Mr. Bell and Mrs. Heath

Where are they now?

Response to *A Separate Peace*

First, you need to obtain a copy of *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles and read it. You can purchase the book or borrow one from a library.

As you complete your reading of the novel, we would like for you to consider this question: **Where will the characters be ten years after the novel's action ends?** We understand that the frame for the story is set when Gene goes back to Devon for a visit, but we want you to think deeper than that.

For example, if you were given this assignment about Rainsford in "The Most Dangerous Game," you might be asked what he will be doing when he gets off the island. During the hunt Rainsford changes his attitude about hunted animals; he begins to understand and identify with their fear and struggle for survival. After citing specific examples to show this change, one might imagine Rainsford's working for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) or volunteering in a local animal shelter.

You must **choose five** of the following characters: Brinker, Chet Douglas, Gene, Leper, Mr. Ludsbury, or Quackenbush. Using evidence from the novel, including incidents, conversations, author's characterization, explain what you think the character might be doing ten years after the novel's action ends. You do not have to directly quote the text but may summarize specifics as support. Consider what his job might be, where (geographically) he might be living, how his personality might have changed, or who his family members might be (married, children, etc.). Be as detailed as you can, as long as you back up your choices.

Each prediction should be approximately 100 words long. You may type or hand write your responses (12- point font, blue or black ink) in paragraph form (complete sentences). Remember this is your first impression for the new year; mechanics will be considered.

For extra credit, you may create an original cover sheet illustration, depicting some aspect of the novel which you consider particularly important. This must be of your own design. While you may, of course, create original art, you may also use photographs or magazine pictures. Beware of computer images which are not used creatively. If you choose not to illustrate, you should have no cover page.

This assignment will count as one test grade and will be due on the fifth day of school. After some discussion of the novel, there will also be a classroom test on the novel.

If you have any questions concerning the assignment, you may contact Mr. Bell or Mrs. Heath through their school notes accounts.