

Catcher in the Rye Take Home Exam

Quote Analysis

- Format for paragraph # 1 (10 / 10 points)
 - Clarify the text, make the connection, explain the connection, provide evidence
 - Quality of the ideas in paragraph # 1 (8 / 10 points)
 - Originality, complexity, clarity, depth of analysis, amount of elaboration
 - Format for paragraph # 2 (10 / 10 points)
 - Clarify the text, make the connection, explain the connection, provide evidence
 - Quality of the ideas in paragraph # 2 (7 / 10 points)
 - Originality, complexity, clarity, depth of analysis, amount of elaboration
 - Format for paragraph # 3 (10 / 10 points)
 - Clarify the text, make the connection, explain the connection, provide evidence
 - Quality of the ideas in paragraph # 3 (7 / 10 points)
 - Originality, complexity, clarity, depth of analysis, amount of elaboration
- TOTAL SCORE** (52 / 60 points)

Catcher in the Rye: Exam Answers

1. Holden was walking down the street and noticed a family walking out the church. He noticed that the parents weren't paying attention to the young boy. That connects to Holden because his parents don't pay any attention to him. Nobody pays attention to people that are outcasts and he is one. He could have caught a flashback to when he was younger too. Holden was lonely since he was younger and especially when Allie died. All he wants is to be noticed and be cared for and gets emotional when he realizes he is special to someone. He needs to love himself too. Also when he noticed what melody the boy was humming, "He was singing that song, "If a body catch a body coming through the rye".....it made me feel better. It made me feel not so depressed." That calmed him down because right then he must of realized that he wanted to be a catcher in the rye and save that boy before he runs off the cliff.

need to explain this a lot more

2. Holden was looking for his little sister, Phoebe and where he went to look for her was at the museum. While he was there he saw the Eskimo in the same spot it has always been for years. Holden has noticed the Eskimo has never changed when he goes to the museum. It's always in the same spot but only he has changed. Holden has changed because he was getting kicked out more and becoming more of an outcast. He doesn't like change because he said that's the best thing. Deep inside Holden wishes he could go back where nothing has changed. He will do the right thing because he cries about being lonely and desperate. Holden has changed since he was younger and is becoming worse than he was before. He doesn't like change because he said, "The best thing, though, in that museum was that everything always stayed right where it was. Nobody'd move.....Nobody'd be different -the only thing that would be different would be you." That proves he doesn't like change because if he did he wouldn't make a statement like that.

It doesn't explain why he doesn't like change though

3. Holden had no other place to go so he went to the park. While Holden is at the park he drops the record he brought for Phoebe and cried because he was very hurt. Everything was already going wrong and he wanted to surprise his little sister. That didn't work out too. Holden cares a lot about his sister. He doesn't want his sister to go through the same journey he is going through. Which is trying to find himself and find the true meaning in his life. When he broke the record by accident it hurt him bad because he wanted to show that he was thinking about Phoebe by buying the record. He wanted to prove that because he said, "I damn near cried, it made me feel so terrible, but all I did was, I took the pieces out of the envelope and put them in my coat pocket.But I didn't feel like throwing them away." He wanted to show that he did buy her something.

What did the record symbolize?

Name _____

Date _____

***Catcher in the Rye* Take Home Exam**

Due: Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Directions: Choose one of the following options. You do NOT need to do both!

Option One: Quote Analysis

- Choose 3 out of the 5 quotes to analyze.
- Use the strategies taught in class to give a thorough analysis for significance, symbolism or point of view.
- Analyses should be written in FULL SENTENCES, paragraph form, no less than 6-8 sentences long, typed, double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font.
- Analyses should follow the format taught in class:
 - Step One: Clarify the text.
 - Step Two: Make the connection between the quote and Holden.
 - Step Three: Explain how the quote helps us understand Holden on a deeper level.
 - Step Four: Provide more evidence.

- * 1. This family that you could tell just came out of some church were walking right in front of me – a father, a mother and a little kid about six years old... He and his wife were just walking along, talking, not paying any attention to their kid. The kid was swell. He was walking in the street, instead of on the sidewalk, but right next to the curb. He as making out like he was walking a very straight line, the way kids do, and the whole time he kept singing and humming. I got up closer to hear what he was singing. He was singing that song, "If a body catch a body coming through the rye." He had a pretty little voice too. He was just singing for the hell of it, you could tell. The cars zoomed by, brakes screeched all over the place, his parents paid him no attention, and he kept on walking next to the curb and singing "If a body catch a body coming through the rye." It made me feel better. It made me feel not so depressed anymore (115).
- * 2. The best thing, though, in that museum was that everything always stayed right where it was. Nobody'd move. You could go there one hundred thousand times, and that Eskimo would still just be finished catching those two fish. The birds would still be on their way south, the deer would still be drinking out of that waterhole, with their pretty antler and their pretty skinny legs and that squaw with the naked bosom would still be weaving that same blanket. Nobody'd be different – the only thing that would be different would be you (121).
3. I walked over to Madison Avenue and started to wait around for a bus because I didn't have hardly any money left and I had to start economizing on cabs and all. But I didn't feel like getting on a damn bus. And besides, I didn't even know where I was supposed to go. So what I did, I started walking over to the park. I figured I go by

that little lake and go see what the ducks were doing, see if they were around or not. I still didn't know if they were around or not. It wasn't far over to the park and I didn't have any special place to go to – I didn't even know where I was going to *sleep* yet – so I went. I wasn't tired or anything – I just felt blue as hell. Then something terrible happened just as I got to the park. I dropped old Phoebe's record. It broke into about fifty pieces. It was in a big envelope and all, but it broke anyway. I damn near cried, it made me feel so terrible, but all I did was, I took the piece out of the envelope and put them in my coat pocket. They weren't any good for anything, but I didn't feel like just throwing them away. Then I went to the park. Boy, it was dark (152-153).

4. "You know what I'd like to be?" I said. "You know what I'd like to be? I mean if I had a goddamn choice?" ...
"I thought it was 'If a body catch a body,'" I said. "Anyway, I keep picturing all the little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around – nobody big, I mean – except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff – I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That's all I'd do all day, I'd just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it's crazy, but that's the thing I'd really like to be. I know it's crazy" (172-173).
5. I as early as I got there, so I just sat down on one of those leather couches right near the clock in the lobby and watched the girls. A lot of schools were home for vacation already, and there were about a million girls sitting and standing around waiting for their dates to show up. Girls with their legs crossed, girls with their legs not crossed, girls with terrific legs, girls with lousy legs, girls that looked like swell girls, girls that looked like they'd be bitches if you knew them. It was really nice sightseeing, if you know what I mean. In a way, it was sort of depressing too, because I kept wondering what the hell would happen to all of them. When they got out of college, I mean. You figured most of them would probably marry dopey guys (123).

Option Two: Essay

- Write an essay to answer the question below.
- Include at least 2 quotes as specific pieces of evidence. Be sure to analyze the quotes in support of your answer.
- Essay should follow the format taught in class: Introduction with a three part thesis statement that answers the question, body paragraphs with topic sentences that are reasons why your thesis is true, and a conclusion that goes beyond the scope of your paper.
- Essays should be 2 pages typed, double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman.

Question: Was Holden successful in his journey? Why or why not?

(hint: you'll need determine what journey he's on before you answer this!)