

Catcher in the Rye Final Project

1. *The Holden Caulfield Mix*: Make an 8 song CD for Holden Caulfield, if he were around today. In a letter to Holden, explain why you chose each song especially for him. Each song should have a paragraph of in-depth explanation as to why you think he would like it. Use ideas, quotes, themes, and symbols from the novel and compare those ideas to specific lyrics in the song(s).
 - a. Requires 8 songs-with artist/title-on CD
 - b. A letter of at least 10 paragraphs (intro, 1 for each song, and closing) written in proper letter form (typed)
 - c. Use of lyrics, quotes from novel, themes, motifs and symbols
 - d. A cover for the CD
2. *Holden and Depression*: Research depression in teens, including information about causes, symptoms and treatment. After doing so, compare your findings to Holden. Use evidence from the books to demonstrate Holden's diagnosis.
 - a. Title page w/title, name and period
 - b. 3 pages typed and double spaced
 - c. Documentation of sources (use easybib)
 - d. Good style and mechanics
3. *Holden—Ten Years After*: Write a piece of short fiction in which you look in on Holden's life 10 years after the end of the story. Try your best to replicate Holden's unique voice. Use what you know of him from the book to guide your prediction.
 - a. Title page with w/title, name and period
 - b. 4 pages minimum typed and double spaced
4. *Graphic Novel or Comic Book*: This format allows the artistic students to use their skills to recreate the story in the graphic novel or comic book format. Choose what you consider three of the most important scenes from *Catcher* to illustrate and retell. Use the actual words from the book in your narrative or word balloons.
 - a. Three important scenes (will be graded on your understanding of what "important" is)
 - b. Quality and effort put into artwork
 - c. Creativity
 - d. Neatness and presentation
5. *Holden's Scrapbook*: Compile a scrapbook of memorabilia Holden might have collected or come across during the novel. All artifacts must be captioned with where he got it, its significance to him (written like he would say it), and the page in the book where he found it on. Think of the images that keep recurring in the novel, the places Holden travels to and anything he collects.
 - a. At least 10 pieces (minimum) of memorabilia correctly captioned
 - b. Memorabilia should come from throughout the whole novel. Not all from one or two chapters
 - c. Neatly presented in a scrapbook style
6. *The Secret Goldfish*: We hear a brief description of the plot of D.B.'s story "The Secret Goldfish" early in the novel. Try your hand at writing a children's book. The story should reflect the plot as summarized by Holden AND should also be embellished and illustrated. Remember, Holden thought it was a great book—very authentic and not phony. So from the description and from what you know about Holden try to come up with a minimum 10 page children's book that would appeal to Holden's sensibilities.

- a. Cover + minimum 10 pages
 - b. Illustrated and written
 - c. Children's book style
 - d. Story reflects Holden's sensibilities
7. *Blog it*: Holden's sister, Phoebe, was an avid writer of "Hazel Weatherfield" stories. Using what you know about Phoebe from the book, from what Holden says about the stories, create a blog for Phoebe (use WordPress or some other blogging site) and write about Phoebe's life. Include at least one HW story.
 - a. Blog
 - b. Understanding of Phoebe
 - c. 1 HW story
8. *Map It*: Create a colorful and detailed map of Holden's New York. Use a real New York map to locate the places he goes. The internet will be a big help for this one. Be sure to include these locations (as well as others): Central Park (the carousel, the lake, the zoo), The Museum of Natural History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Radio City Ice Rink, Times Square, Grand Central Station, the Wicker Bar, The Edmont Hotel. With each location, include the quote with the page number from the book where the location is found in the book.
 - a. New York City Map with at least required locations
 - b. Colorful, neat, well-illustrated
 - c. Quotes with page numbers
9. *The Tool of Madmen?*: Do a mini-research project on all the high profile assassins who have cited *Catcher in the Rye* as their inspiration for murder and mayhem. Include an assessment as to why you think this book has been linked to the violent actions of some crazy people. (You may be asked to present your findings to the class)
 - a. Title page
 - b. 3 pages typed double spaced
 - c. Proper documentation (easybib)
 - d. Well written, good mechanics
10. *Censorship and Catcher*: Another research project, make a poster size chart (graphic, timeline, etc.) showing the censorship that the book has encountered since its publishing. Refer to specific places in the book to demonstrate what people have found objectionable about the book, using the quote and the page number. On the back, include a one page (double spaced, typed) personal assessment of why you think the censorship was justified or not justified.
 - a. Poster size chart
 - b. Illustrated
 - c. Correct presentation of censorship
 - d. One page evaluation on back of poster
11. *The Game of Life (Holden's version)*: In chapter 2, Mr. Spencer tells Holden that life is a game that one plays according to the rules. Holden agrees on the outside but not the inside. For this project, you must create a game (based on the famous Milton Bradley game called "Life") that is called "The Game of Life; Holden Caulfield Edition." Your game board should reflect the events and circumstances Holden presents in *Catcher*.
 - a. Game board
 - b. Colorful, well-illustrated, neatly designed
 - c. Choices along the path, rules should reflect the events and ideas of *Catcher in the Rye*
 - d. Based on the MB game called "Life"