

# Reading Comprehension

## "The Catcher in the Rye"

### STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

#### Chapters I - VIII

##### **Chapter One**

1. In what person is the story written?
2. What are Holden's problems at this point in the novel? State them.
3. What is the setting of the story – general & specific?
4. Who is the history teacher and what is wrong with him? How does he feel about Holden? How do you know?

##### **Chapter Two**

1. Why does Holden hate the word "grand"? How does this relate to his feelings about many of the people around him?
2. How many schools has Holden attended? What does this tell you about him?
3. How old is Holden? Is he acting according to his age? What physical characteristics make Holden look older?
- 4- Based on the reading, what is a hot-shot? Would you like to be a hot-shot? Yes-No, why?

##### **Chapter Three**

1. What grade in school is Holden in?
2. Who is Ossenburger? What is the reason Holden dislikes him?
3. Who is Ackley? Give 5 reasons Holden dislikes him.

##### **Chapter Four**

1. Who is Holden's roommate? Why doesn't Holden like him very much? Give specific reasons.
2. What dishonest thing does Holden's roommate ask him to do? Does Holden agree? Why or why not?
3. With whom does Holden's roommate have a date? Why does it bother Holden so much?

##### **Chapter Five**

1. With whom does Holden go into town? What does this tell the reader about him?
2. What does the reader learn about Holden's family?

##### **Chapter Six**

1. Holden and Stradlater have a tremendous fight? Why? Who wins? Explain.

##### **Chapter Seven**

1. Who is hesitant to let Holden sleep over and why?
2. What lie does Holden tell to explain the reasons why he fought with Stradlater?
3. At this point, why doesn't Holden want to stay at Pencey?
4. Who says the following quote and what does it reveal about it?  
*"...almost every time someone gives me a present it makes me sad..."*

##### **Chapter Eight**

1. How is this train ride different for Holden?
2. Who does Holden meet on the train?
3. Name 5 ways Holden is phony (false-impostor-fake) on the train ride.

