

# ***The Catcher in the Rye / J.D. Salinger***

## **Holden character**

### **Who is Holden - in general**

Holden Caulfield is a 17-year-old boy. Son of an American lawyer. An outstanding athlete in fencing. Smart who also knows how to write essays well. He failed in his studies and therefore was expelled from prestigious boarding schools intended for the rich.

His brother Eli died of leukemia. His older brother is a screenwriter in Hollywood. And Phoebe is his younger and beloved sister. His mother suffers from irritability and irritability (since his brother's death) and his father threatened him that if he was expelled from school he would put him in a military boarding school. Against the backdrop of repeated failures, Holden undertakes an apprenticeship that will shape his personality. On the journey he met with many people who represent the American society. **This journey of apprenticeship opens a process after which he will understand, mature and assimilate within himself their nature, their values the social, economic and religious aspects of the New Yorkers. And he will return to his family as a new person. His actions:** Attest to his being extreme, melodramatic, unpredictable, and self-destructive.

**His dialogues and monologues:** reveal a complicated inner world. The lines of his personality, character and thoughts are revealed. **Descriptions of landscape and environment:** The story takes place against the backdrop of the great city of New York. A frozen city and it suits his depression and his black thoughts. That's why he also lives in hotels and goes to clubs. Everything around is foreign and estranged and within it he is looking for warmth and love.

**direct characterization**(Other characters give us information about him): He is handsome. He has long hair (despite being young), a coward Furious . A small eater. Depressed. He looks like a madman when he gets drunk..

**thoughts, views and ambitions:** Hate reality as it is, the hatred of the people who inhabit it and the desperate attempt Clinging to the world of childhood and the emptiness that has fallen from it - they are what cause Holden to immerse himself in imaginations and develop, based on a verbal mistake in the lyrics of the song he happened to hear, the fictional image of the Catcher in the Rye, a kind of rescuer who saves children from falling into the abyss. It symbolizes his fear of growing up and losing his childhood. That's why he does everything to avoid it.

**The values that are important to him:** purity, innocence, love of nature. Consideration of the other, protection of the weak. All these cannot To be realized in modern American society, in a world where everything is alienated and a stranger who alienates the weak and even the children are not protected. He prefers simple people and therefore plans to run away from the city to a remote hut far away from people. He feels repulsion and nausea from their fixed life course that does not change and this leads him to physical nausea and actual vomiting. He thinks about death and imagines how he will be buried (103,197,200). He is troubled by the treatment of the ducks in Central Park when the lake outside is frozen.

His way of thinking is childish, fresh and unexpected. He makes a lot of generalizations. His thinking is associative - that's why he jumps from subject to subject.

Due to his emotional state, conflicting thoughts and feelings run through him. This emotional state is reflected in his physical state: he cries, laughs, vomits, falls, faints, sweats, trembles, etc.

**Characteristics** :Due to his being a teenager who refuses to grow up, he is in a difficult emotional state, an extreme duality can be found in his character: negative and positive

He hates lies but makes up names for himself. Hates movies but goes to the cinema himself. Hates people but looks for people who will listen to him. Tormented and depressed but has a dark sense of humor, falls in love with Sally but after her rejection he hates her.

Holden is a misanthrope (he hates people) so every act of others disturbs him.

In its features it is shown as **an anti-hero**: This is a character who does not lead an active struggle. No external glow is evident in her. Usually she is submissive, introverted or humiliated and worn out. She does not fit into society, but in the course of her development, they discover that her failures stem from her good qualities and her inability to adapt to the defective values of life.

Holden fits this description. he **Can't fit into society** Because he is sensitive and good and does not agree to adopt the negative values of American society. **He perceives himself as a failure** (Unlike his successful brothers). He attests to himself as one **Coward, insecure and will not succeed**. His failures stem from his dislike of the fake society. has in it **Courage**. He defends his principles even at the cost of receiving blows.

**Holden opens the piece as an immature boy and during it he matures therefore: he makes generalizations, does not refer to different laws. He does not like everything in society. He looks for logic in every detail. He has a dichotomous view (everything according to black or white). He believes that he can manage in the world alone. Often enters feelings of helplessness.**

Throughout the piece he is looking for a listening ear. He asks constantly. There are many contradictions in him (will be detailed later). He lives in memories.

**. Sensitive to sounds, smells. Hate pretense. afraid of death of sex It is not realistic.**

**The current situation puts him in a conflict = a complication:**

**A. with the girlfriend** - got into endless fights and arguments

**B. with himself** between his values and the values of society which he often

attracted to them. **The internal conflict is expressed like this:**

1. Hates liars and counterfeiters, but he himself fakes and lies. (show examples!)
2. Does not like the theater but goes to the theater and performs himself.
3. Wants women and falls in love with them, but does not think it is right to approach women when there is no emotion, and therefore often distances himself from them.
4. Feelings of distress (inner pain) and despair, but alongside them there is also laughter.
5. Indifferent to society but cares about what people think of him.
6. Hates people who don't listen but he himself doesn't listen.
7. Against religion but adores the nuns. And angry at people who spoiled the Christmas tree.

**The height of complexity:** The fall in the museum: a kind of death but it is also a new beginning.

**The Tara: (broad detail below)** recovering Meet with Phoebe. When he goes to the carousel he sees a beauty

the world. He was rescued from his negative attitude towards society and those around it. The ending is a closed ending: 17-year-old Holden tells the whole story after a year's hospitalization in the psychiatric ward and he is about to return to school.

## **Holden's values:**

### **1. Maintaining the respect of others is a supreme value in his eyes**

A. He avoided talking about Romeo and Juliet near the nuns. (107) \_\_\_\_\_

B. In honor of the promiscuous Sunny, he dresses nicely, treats her as a person to be reckoned with. His attempts to talk to her, his desire to get to know her and her past show his great sensitivity to her - as a person. \_\_\_\_\_

third. He takes into account the wishes of the girls he goes out with, he doesn't force himself on them, and in general he doesn't start with someone he doesn't like. (142)

A girl he is

d. Jean is not treated as a sexual object, but as a company, so he attacks Straddler who treats her as a sexual object.

God. Holden cannot hurt the opponent's face, which is a symbol of a person's private identity.

## **2. The recognition of the dignity of others brings Holden to consideration of his needs and patience towards the poor and the weak.**

A. Invites Akli and his friend to the cinema out of pity, not out of a desire to spend time with them.

B. Angry that at school the students rejected boys who had birthmarks. He felt the pain and distress of others. third. Holden sinks into depression just thinking about the great grief he will cause his mother when he hears that he has been expelled from school.

## **3. Because of the concern for others, Holden wants to obscure social inequality:**

A. Hate the principal of the school in Elkton only because he favors the rich parents, behaved in complete inequality towards the poor children.

B. He hides his expensive luggage to prevent his friend from grief since he is poor and his luggage is old.

third. In his meeting with the nuns, he was annoyed by the fact that they drank coffee and ate toast while he was enjoying a hearty meal, so he gave them 10 dollars.

d. Shows indifference to the material side of life = does not make sure to receive excess, lends his things - the typewriter, the coat and the golf sweater.

## **4. Holden is sensitive to justice and honesty.**

His attempt to appear and sound like an honest person who speaks honestly and truthfully (this is also his style of speaking) indicates Holden's developed sense of justice (as opposed to falsification in society) therefore he also insists not to be blackmailed by Sunny contrary to the "agreement" between them. He receives beatings and insults only out of principle that he must fight cheating.

- Often uses the word "really" in contrast to the fakeness of the company and tries to convince the sincerity of his words.

## **5. Holden longs to create a beautiful, pure and aesthetic world**

A. He didn't throw the snowball on anything so that it wouldn't spoil or get dirty. B.

Says about Ernest's mother "she was very beautiful".

**An example of this: Holden's relationship with Gene Galliger:-** Holden has known Gene for a long time. He knows her very well and would spend a lot of time with her. He used to play sports games with her. They both had a common spiritual world - a world of books. He reveals the most secret things to her. In my eyes, Holden Jean is extremely beautiful, although not everyone thought so. He really likes her mouth closed. Gien is not looking for competition, that's why in the game of checkers she keeps her queenship.

When Holden learns that Straddler is going to meet with Jean, he asks that he ask her if she is still keeping them. Just the thought that his friend is sleeping with her drives him crazy and he fights with him.

Jean symbolizes the world of innocence and childhood that Holden wants to connect with. Through it you can learn about Holden's attitude to sex. In addition, it is contrary to American society, which is far from innocence and purity.

#### **6. The emotion - highly considers the emotion.**

- a) His relationship with Eli and Phoebe (great love for both of them). The strong feeling that Holden feels towards his brother is expressed when he describes the rain falling in the cemetery and Eli cannot escape or hide from it.
- b) In the expression class, she protests that there is no expression of feelings. (The children are anxiously waiting for a student to fall from the class. c) The immense pain that resulted from the death of his brother.

#### **7. His love for nature**

His ambition is to escape to the western US and create for himself an ideal, pastoral world - a forest, a small, sunny shack where he won't have to talk, especially not stupid conversations. The girl he will marry will be deaf and mute and in this world there will be 2 things: books, children. And not commercialized literature, he will teach the children independently and also hide them from the corrupt world.

#### **8. Confidentiality and anonymity-**

Hate exposure, interested in illusion - to be in a private, secret world, away from nosy society, examples:

- A. The child who sings to himself in his own private world the catcher's song away from the material and predatory world that surrounds him.
- B. Loves his brother D.B.'s book "The Mysterious Golden Fish" (5).

The secret goldfish that symbolizes something that is not visible to the eyes of the world is the private property of the child and therefore the world is not allowed to look at it.

third. Changed the real names (Eli) in the essay he wrote to Straddler.

d. He has the fear of exposure in front of an audience. hates dancing in front of an audience (p.

God: 73). If I played the piano I would play in a closet.

and When he and Sally are skating he resents the fact that there is always a crowd of curious people standing and looking at the skaters.

G. Secretly enters his house and there secretly cries as Phoebe gives him her pocket money.

H. When Holden goes to the train station to take out his luggage he states "that he didn't want to open in front of everyone".

And finally he warns his audience of "hearers" never tell anything to anyone (209).

ninth. The fear of exposure is most evident in the passage where Holden wants to kill himself "I would probably do it if I was sure someone would cover me as soon as I landed, I didn't want some bunch of stupid curios looking at me when I was all covered in blood (103).

Even the thought of the funeral makes him afraid - what millions of people will come to the funeral. On the other

hand, Holden praises the drummer who plays in the corner - hidden and hidden from the crowd.

J. Jean Gallagher gets sympathy because she was the guardian of her kingdom in the last row - that is, she guards and protects her own secret and private world.

## 11 The catcher's hat - the identification mark - a symbol of his private world. Holden wears his hat the wrong way

### Front facing backwards is accepted, and also in the accepted way.

#### He wears a backwards hat:

- A. When he lost his safes in the subway (20).
- B. When Holden talks to Straddler (asking him to write the essay for him) (29-30).
- third. When he leaves Pansy.
- d. After the fight with Stradalter: "I turned my forehead back the way I like" (47).

Holden indirectly notes that his appearance is different as if he had returned to his hotel. And when he returns to the playground "while I was walking I took off the hunting hat, I put it on I knew I wouldn't meet anyone I know".

11 When he found out that Straddler was dating Gene Gallagher "I turned my hunting hat forward and suddenly I got nervous"...

"Suddenly I became angry" - an expression of anger towards Stradlater who seeks to take advantage of Jean.

12. Ackley tells Holden that the hat is a doe hunter's hat. Oona Holden is a man hunter's hat. "I hunt people in this hat" (25) ie **There are moments when Holden asks to be the aggressor and not the victim.**

13. The hat calls to the game of baseball and to his brother Eli. Eli is a baseball player and Holden has a special attitude to the baseball glove. The baseball players wear the hat, with the forehead facing forward, except for the catcher whose forehead is upside down CATCHER

Hand. **The catcher's hat - the catcher in the rye field.** The name of the book refers to Holden's hat. Holden wants to be

The catcher in the rye field means to be the children's protector when his symbol will be a catcher's hat = an upside-down hat like the baseball player's - like Eli's brother's hat.

Most of the things Holden likes are related to children: in the story about the mysterious goldfish, Phoebe and his brother Eli are especially loved by him. In the park, a small, well-mannered girl sees "most children are like that" (117). On the playground - he says that children look beautiful. In small children's notebooks he can read and read non-stop.

**He wants to be a representative of the vulnerable and sensitive children's world who stands on the cliff and catches the children and thus prevents them from falling into adulthood. - For him, this is his calling in life. In doing so, he will prevent them from the horrific experiences he experienced**

How does he come to this dream: p.-113 he sees a family coming out of church, father, mother and a 6-year-old boy are poor and want to show off, they don't notice the boy who is walking on the road and is almost hit by the vehicle and the boy is singing a song by Robert Burns (Scottish poet) Holden doesn't notice that the child distorts the words of the song "If Adam **catching** a man fought in a rye field" instead of singing: "If a man **meets** a man fought in the rye field." Phoebe gives him the exact information regarding the lyrics of the song and the poet. What Holden really wants is to remain a victorious child and even prevent the children from falling into the rye field, thus remaining children forever without any process of growing up. Holden is scolded by others who think that he is not. Stops being a child and doesn't play by the rules he should. Since Holden is a misanthrope, he creates a refuge for himself from this hatred by taking care of the children and wanting to prevent their fall. The hatred of reality and the desperate attempt to hold on to the world of childhood that is falling from him are what make Holden immerse himself in imaginations and develop based on a literal mistake in words. The song he hears randomly is the same fictional image of the catcher in the rye field.

During the three days the children are a source of warmth and love and even at the end he does not run away because he did not want to hurt his little sister Phoebe.

Only at the end of the piece does he stop being afraid of this fall into the world of adults and even realizes that he must grow up and that he will not be able to serve as a catcher in the rye.

**The hat symbolizes:**

1. Situations in which Holden feels hurt and is forced to withdraw and gather in his private world for fear of harm from the outside world. **The hat is a symbol of protection against the real and social cold.**
2. **The hat symbolizes the emotion and warmth towards the other**- Holden shows and gives the hat to Phoebe (176) in order to protect her from the various hunters who lurk innocent children in the cruel New York society, and when angry Phoebe throws the hat in his face (take it off) and after the reconciliation she wears the hat again (203). He himself wears a catcher's hat - thus going to protect the children's world from opacity and evil.
3. When he confronts and argues the hat is on him - he does not accept the accepted norms and the reality angers him.
4. When he identifies with Eli.
5. Holden in the role of a catcher (details in point 8)

**Oh To discuss and criticize the world of adults - the values of American society**

**a) The forgery-**

1. (6) The advertisement poster of Pansi School - "Since 1988 we have been shaping the image of the boys and turning them into bright young men with bright thoughts" - mockery and criticism are heard from the mouth of Holden who has not seen a single student like this and if there is one, then he does not come from Pansi - this is a naive cliché, a false cultivation of an empty and false ideal, therefore the manager also has a "fake face".
2. (16) The principal of the school in Elkton Hills (another school that Holden left), known as a fake where he was surrounded by fake faces "there were such crowds". The principal Edon Hess - he is the most fake of all - on Sundays he would walk around the school square and shake hands which is accompanied by a fake smile only for well-tailored parents. "Old-fashioned" parents who look worn and poor were completely ignored (they can't contribute to the school) and this would drive Holden crazy, depressing him. Holden testifies "as much as I hated Elkton Hills, that damn place."
3. (19) Ridicule and criticism towards the generous donor Osenburger the gravedigger who got rich from burying people, spoke to the students about the importance of praying to God, to Jesus. Holden is convinced that his only prayer to God is to send him many, many more corpses. This is the representative hypocrisy and materialism from which Holden was sold.
4. (60) Holden's friend Sally is described as fake. Many times Holden looked for someone to call to talk and get out of his depression, Sally came to his mind. She wrote him a long letter, invited him to Christmas but he felt that there was no intention or truth in her words. She goes out to spend time with Holden to enjoy his company, most of the time she is busy with herself, with her appearance. Through Sally, Holden criticizes the superficiality of human relationships and the lack of real interest in others. (Her mother sees him as a wild man).

5. (84) Holden's distaste for the audience applauding Ernie the pianist. They always clap their hands in the wrong place, do not understand anything and pretend to understand so to speak. Ernie himself is also criticized. Its falsification is expressed in its commercialization. He sells himself to an ignorant audience by playing the piano.
6. (86) Lila Simmons - D.B.'s friend refers to Holden only because he is D.B.'s brother. He criticizes her enthusiasm for his books even though she hasn't read them (and so have the others). She prefers publicity and materialism over the creativity that D. is capable of.  
b. to arrive.
7. (89) If you want to "stay alive" you must behave according to the rules "I always say I was glad to meet you" to someone I am not at all glad to have met.
8. Criticism of the preachers - the priests are also fake, the religious ceremonies are artificial and they exude hypocrisy.
9. (124) Holden criticizes the fakeness of the theater audience. Criticizes the superficial intellectuality, lack of depth and understanding. All their purpose is to create a fair impression. The theater players themselves also make the game a matter of technical polishing only. He despised actors and people waiting in line for the cinema "but the worst thing you could do was feel that they all wanted to go to the cinema, I couldn't look at them... it depresses me to death" (114).
10. Holden criticizes the fakeness of the people and their low cultural level - D.B.'s girlfriend admires him.  
In Hollywood, people prefer the world of movies. The publicity and money where everything is built on fakeness than a world of real art and creativity.

## **b) Insensitivity and unwillingness to listen**

1. When Holden says "People never notice anything" (12). He accepts the insensitivity of the people around him. Everyone is busy with themselves and do not make time to devote their time to others, for example people do not understand Holden himself and see only the childish side in him, Holden's criticism towards the simplistic view of the people around him.

When Holden tries to talk to Straddler about Gene Gallagher, he ignores his stories and wishes about Gene. He, like other people, ignores (perhaps small) things that make up his private and secret world - he does send her a greeting, but he knows that will not arrive. When Holden asks Straddler to say hello to Gene he is sure he won't. **Criticism - disdain of the people in the importance of precious things to others.** This is also seen in Ernie's club when Holden asks the waiter to invite Ernie to drink with him "These bastards never deliver what you ask of them". Holden **Thrilling Criticism towards the distrust of the adults** When he promised the bus driver that he would not make any use of the snowball the driver

refuse

**Holden criticizes the society, which adheres so closely to the strict laws, a society without patience and tolerance** For example: A boy in Holden's class who constantly deviated from the topic on which he had to give a speech, they would always shout at him "Exception! As fast as possible" - that's how his speech was stopped. (181)

Here Holden also expresses **A protest against the rule of reason favors the expression of emotion.** He comes out against the compulsion to speak in a logical and orderly way, but the possibility of self-expression - for freedom - should be encouraged.

- Holden tells Straddler "That's the trouble with you idiots, you never want to talk about anything."

- While dancing with the girl from Seattle - "she didn't even listen".
- When Holden talks to Ackley - Ackley prefers to continue sleeping.
- Holden tries to make contact - contact with the other person with the aim of creating a meaningful conversation - but without success.

- Can't even have a meaningful conversation over the phone.

**The only one who listened to him with extra attention was Phoebe.** This is also the reason why he loved her. In contrast, others like Straddler, the girl from Seattle, old Spencer, Lis, Ackley and Sunny - these are not listening, not interested, they have no desire to talk about anything meaningful. He encountered coldness, opacity, disconnection. And even when we meet, the end is disappointing like with Anatoly. **Summary: The ones who disappoint him are:**

Straddler- "You morons don't want to talk about anything." Ackley - continues to sleep.

Luce - sends him to a psychiatrist, shuns him and abandons him even when Holden confesses his bad state. Jin- can't get in touch with her by phone.

Sally - calls her out of no choice, they meet but the meeting brings a fight with her. Anatoly - met with him but the meeting was disappointing.

### **third. Holden's criticism of the laws:**

When Holden comes to visit old Spencer his teacher: "Life is really a game that is played according to the rules". Holden admits this but makes another comment "What is a game, where is a game if you are on the side of the powerful it is a game but if you are on the other side, where there are no powerful, then what is the game here? Nothing, no game" (123).

**Holden means that life is a game for the strong but for the weak, life is not a game but a struggle too hard to stick to predetermined rules.**

Holden on the side of the weak challenges the rules of the "camp of the strong". Holden does not accept the strict disciplinary rules at the boarding school (smokes in prohibited places, drinks for rent despite his age, slurs his mouth), the tendency to express that Holden hates because of the strict rules - it is forbidden to deviate from the framework and Holden likes deviations from the subject.

He hates the army because they always tell you what to do. Holden sees himself as living in a world governed by game rules or predetermined rules (since he sees himself as "weak" he does not refer to these rules or rules as belonging to his world). A hint that Holden is out of the game is already hinted at at the beginning of the novel where Holden does not take part in the rugby match. He doesn't feel like he belongs.

### **Holden's behavior contradicts his beliefs**

a) His attitude towards society - indifference and a desire to act as he pleases and this is expressed symbolically by wearing the hat, but this is inconsistent. That I won't meet anyone I know." He is not in tune with himself and the environment.

b) Holden takes himself out of the "game" - outside of the laws that do not protect the weak, but there are times when Holden shows respect for the laws. Sometimes hostile and ignored but sometimes respects them. He says about himself "I make all kinds of rules for myself and break them" - although he ties the rules to the world of the powerful, but he himself cannot avoid setting rules for himself and when he sets them, he immediately breaks them.

c) In his conversation with Sally 128-129, 195 Holden describes his future life in the West. A simple and non-materialistic life, but at the same time talks about borrowing machines from his friend and equipping himself with a lot of money.



d) expresses his protest against the environment that does not listen but he himself does not listen 185: in a conversation with Antolini he asks Holden if he listens to his words and Holden yawns during the conversation. Shows tiredness and lack of listening "usually people want to talk to you when you don't feel like it".

e) favors privacy but shamelessly allows himself to pry into the private lives of others "I started a little too much prying into his private affairs".

f) Believes in showing consideration and sensitivity towards others, however his negative attitude towards Spencer's old wife stands out. He shows reluctance to her because of her being a woman.

g) Theater and movies.

Holden's attitude to movies is not unambiguous. Holden is inconsistent in his aversion to this world as he himself is influenced by it.

Proofs:

A. 102-103 - description of his reaction after kidnapping Mamoris.

His response is taken from the world of movies. He invents an imaginary script parodying Hollywood movies, but despite the parody elements, Holden chooses a ridiculous script for himself and connects it to a reality that is not ridiculous - in which he was beaten. In reality - Holden is a coward and in games - he becomes an imaginary hero. In reality, Holden fails to make contact with Gene Gallagher and here in exchange for his "heroism" Gene comes to his aid by holding the cigarette for him - this is a world that rejects him but he is influenced by it. B. During the conversation with Stradelter (31) tap dances in front of him - related to a Hollywood script about a father who objected to his son learning dance instead of investing in studies. The boy managed to get the main role - Holden builds a self-image for himself from the world of movies - the self-esteem he lacks in reality and is perfected by the movies.

third. He comments that he is unable to read the stupid stories that are read on the train but is tempted to read them. Because he is attracted to the image of the man who is successful in his relationships with women - which is the male image that appears in the stories.

d. Holden usually goes to the cinema with Ackley and his friend and also when he is waiting for a meeting with Luce he goes to the cinema.

God. Phoebe likes movies very much even if there is violence in them. He loves Phoebe hence his opposition is not so absolute. When it comes to Phoebe he deviates from the criteria.

and. pp. 76-77 thought of getting an offer to participate in a commercial video. Criticism of the world of films and cinema seems less reliable in the face of these examples. Although Holden's hatred of films he is influenced by them and also enjoys imitating them (although he is aware of the damage in the way) but, through them, Holden creates for himself An image that he lacks in reality. He imitates the fake world - and this is a contradiction in his character.

#### The meaning of the contradictions - Holden is in an intermediate state

How can one explain the contradictions that were discovered in Holden's views and his attitude towards those around him?

1. Holden as a first person narrator raises a problem of reliability, there is a gap between the value systems and ideals and his behavior in practice.

**Holden, is unaware of the existence of contradictions** These and the reader infers them through the text and the values are actually of **The author is the encrypted number. Holden's values against the narrator's values.**

2. The contradictions can be seen as having a psychological nature. ahead of us **A teenage boy torn between 2 value systems.** That of the childhood world and that of the adult world. He is in an intermediate state, still searching for his identity, the identity is not yet formed, hence the changing moods. The dichotomous (polar) view of things, the many generalizations

and the swings between the 2 poles. The intermediate state is already expressed in an external physical description (12) "I was 16 and now I'm 17 but sometimes I act like I'm 13. It's really ridiculous because my height is more than 1.86 and I also have receding hairs, really. One side of my head the side The right one is full of return hairs." Physically he is an adult but his behavior is childish and his bleaching hair shows an intermediate state.

In some cases Holden is aware that his behavior is childish and in others he is not aware and the reader understands and finds such lines in him.

47\ "We started throwing snowballs, it was very childish, but we had fun."

94\ When Sunny undresses in front of him, he feels embarrassed and scared. "It was quite unpleasant for me." When Sunny takes his money from his wallet, he bursts into tears and then he is ashamed of it.

## **Holden and the duck motif**

**The most prominent symbol describing the intermediate state Holden is in is the duck motif.**

### **Must read these pages:**

1. (15) The question arises in relation to ducks - in his conversation with Spencer.
2. (61) Later, when Holden arrives in New York, he asks the taxi driver where the ducks go when the lake is frozen.
3. (81) When he leaves the club and feels complete loneliness, he turns to the driver and asks him what happens to the ducks in the winter. Are they taken in a truck or do they fly there themselves? .
4. (152) Finally, when Holden is wandering half-drunk in the dark park he decides to go see where the ducks are? The preoccupation with the fate of the ducks symbolizes Holden's questions about **His way, his purpose** and his strength to overcome me difficulties and questions related to the fact, to the question of identity - who is he? What is his power? The preoccupation with the fate of the ducks is a side matter that does not concern anyone, but it suits Holden to be interested in small and side details that make up a person's femininity and uniqueness.

**This is actually a metaphor for Holden's existential situation. Like those ducks**

**1. He also dreams of flying away to a world of nature far from New York and what it represents. Far from the company of inflated people.**

**2. He too, like the ducks, does not know and does not know the right direction, he surrenders and stays in New York, in the frozen and freezing society. It's their nature - it's his nature, for better or for worse.**

**A number of points regarding the ducks that bother him:**

\* Holden insists on the direction of the ducks where the ducks go. The problem of direction bothers him because he is in an intermediate state between two opposite directions: childhood and adulthood. Holden is also looking for a goal to strive for, but he doesn't know what the goal is yet.

\* Is there someone who will take them to the zoo or will they fly on their own - will they be able to function independently.

Will there be someone to protect them from the cold or are they able to cope alone.

\* And in relation to him - is there something or someone who will help him get out of this frozen lake? Whether and how he will be able to overcome his difficulties and problems in the frozen society.

**When Holden goes out to the lake he doesn't find it at first. Then he almost falls and then discovers a different reality - a new one than he imagined. Part of the lake is frozen and part is not frozen, in reality there are no unequivocal and decisive answers.**

Holden is looking for certain answers to his questions. The search results from the state we are in: an intermediate state. He doesn't know what the future will hold, which means he is in a state of uncertainty and therefore looks for unequivocal answers that don't always exist, the ones that almost bring him down.

The uncertainty is mainly expressed in his relations with girls of the opposite sex. His difficulties on the subject stem from his lack of confidence if they are interested in him. He does not act as he wishes because he is not sure, and also in his conversation with Spencer, Holden asks if the time he is going through also goes through other people in other times. Spencer answers: "I don't know" and Holden's response "I hate when someone answers me like that" **he can't tolerate vague things.**

The need to know things for sure is related to the fact that Holden himself is in an in-between situation. This need almost causes him to fall into the blessing and to this is connected: the motif of the fall.

### The motif of the fall

**The fall is the result of Holden's insistence on finding in reality a certainty that does not exist.** The motif of the fall is a central motif, the fall is a metaphor for Holden's mental deterioration, the loss of innocence and falling into the lap of adults. The motif of the fall first relates to a physical fall:

- A. When Holden leaves school, he slips on peanut shells and almost breaks his head (53).
- B. When he opens the door for Sunny, he comes across his open suitcase, falls and almost breaks his leg.
- third. When he leaves his house hiding in the dark, he comes across a garbage can and again almost breaks his head.
- d. When the taxi suddenly stops, Holden almost falls.

**God.** While skating on the ice, it bothers him that people are watching how the skaters fall. When running away from Anatolio's house he almost falls, can't find his legs and hands.

- G. When Phoebe insists on running away with him, he almost falls - from dizziness.

The falls are related to coping and failures in the adult world. The failures with the girls, the attempts to escape from lonely situations at school and his parents. Almost falling in the pool shows his inability to deal with the adult world.

In fact, the fall is a metaphor for Holden's mental deterioration and his "sins" as well as the loss of integrity, the "fall" into the world

The adults - from whom there is no escape and where he will lose his personality in a stereotyped and unremarkable society.

Holden is afraid of growing up and falling into the adult world and he dreams of being a catcher who will also save the children from falling into this world.

### The final fall of Holden (p. 200). - "After I left the place where the mummies are, I had to

To the toilet... but something else happened. When I left the bathroom, just before I got to the door, I passed out like that. I was, however, lucky. I mean, I could have been killed if I fell on the floor, but I just fell on the side like that. This, however, was strange. I felt better after I passed out." The two clarifications that faced Holden are: 1. **Too much death** If physical and if mental resulting from the useless escape he is in or 2. **reborn**, relative self-control and return to the bosom of the family and humanity in general. It depends on him alone. Indeed, this is what happens to him later. He is recovering well and plans to return to school.

Another motif that reflects Holden's fears about reality is:

### The motif of blindness, darkness

In one of Holden's games with Ackley, Holden pretends to be blind. He hides behind his hat and calls out "Mom, it's dark here, give me a hand, why don't you want to give me a hand" (24).

**There is an expression here of Holden's inner desire to find support and help. Holden is looking for someone to help him find the way and the meaning of his life. For him the world is dark and he is lost in it.**

Thus, when Holden comes to Phoebe, he cannot find his way and avoids seeing her because of the darkness, Phoebe is connected to the light and perhaps symbolically she is the one who will help him get out of the darkness. The fear of the dark is related to the fear of maidens. The fear of crossing a busy road lest he disappear in the rush, as well as his call to my dead brother "Don't let me disappear".

**And the fear of the maidens connects again to the fall and the catch and this connects to the museum(to be specified later ) .**

## **ninthKes growing up**

As part of the coming-of-age journey, the person being educated goes through several central rituals in the transition from youth to adult life. Holden goes through the journey in 3 days until he joins the "American Dream" - American civilization. Holden walks in a world of dangers and threats and has:

**1. "Guides":** a) The history teacher - teaches him that life is a game, that one must play according to the rules and reminds him of The test in history he failed.

b) The English teacher - teaches that only education and investment in studies will bring success in the future and the realization of the dream

the american

2. **The visit to the museum**- It expresses science, the preservation of life - mummies and overcoming death.

### **A. The world of the museum-A world without the threat of blindness or falling**

The museum symbolizes a safe and protected world, of great static. A world in which there is no threat of falling or going blind, he freezes and preserves the exhibits, that is, time. He has a strong nostalgia for the museum which evokes in him the feeling of his lost childhood. The exhibits in the museum are the animals: doe and birds that fly south in winter. "I loved this museum. I remember that you had to go through the Indian hall to get to the great hall. It was a long, long hall and you were only allowed to whisper there... the floor was all stone... then we would pass by a large glass cabinet. .. Right before entering the great hall, right by the door, you pass in front of an Eskimo .. The best thing, however, in this museum was that everything would always stay in place. No one would move. You could go there a thousand times and nobody would change. The only thing that would change was you. Only you were older or something. Different is all. I can't explain" (119).

The museum includes all those elements that Holden must deal with outside the museum.

1. Escape from the cold winter season to the heat and finding a new direction - birds.
2. Cold - frozen lake.
3. A natural world belonging to the past - Indians.
4. Movies and laws.
5. Min - the naked Indian woman

**The difference between the things in the museum and the real things is that the items do not threaten Holden and that is what he likes about the museum. They are not constantly moving and changing like humans. You always know what to expect when you meet them.**

3. Another step in the growing up journey-**The physical suffering**, which is accompanied by violence. Holden is involved in violent incidents that leave marks on him, so he imagines himself as wounded.

4.**the objects of worship**- through them the teenager enters the world of adults: drinking, alcohol, contact with women, exposure to movies Hollywood - which emphasize the moral and social messages and codes.

5. During his adolescence he is busy searching for another**Searching for true friendship**and the breaking of human loneliness. Holden is in crisis  
My soul is deep, he takes a deep look at himself and his surroundings, but he is also looking for a true friendship that will save him from the abyss  
Loneliness and despair. Holden is compulsive and searches for a friendly human figure but experiences failure and passes awayGod.

### **The characters Ayman met during the three days of puberty:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Spencer- History teacher.                   | 8. Promiscuous Sunny.   |
| 2. Ernest Moro's mother is a student at Pansi. | 9. Sally Hiss.  |
| 3. Phone girl Faith Kao is indifferent.        | 10. The 2 nuns.   |
| 4. The dancers from Seattle.                   | 11. The parents and their little child leaving the church.      |
| 5. Ernie the Pianist and the Crazy Negro.      | 12. Karl Lose - the brilliant intellectual from the university. |
| 6. Taxi driver.                                | 13. Phoebe his sister.  |
| 7. Morris the elevator boy.                    | 14. Anatoly - English teacher.                                  |

**Every encounter shapes and forges it. The meetings disappoint and exacerbate the crisis Holden is in and emphasize the rift**

**between him and the environment.**

- Ackley- a repulsive type but Holden invites him to a hamburger and a movie and when he tries to talk to him Ackley turns his head.
- Arriving in New York, he feels like calling someone - millions of people and he has no one to call.
- Listening to the conversations of Ernie the pianist.
- Meets with Carl Luce from Houghton School but he has no patience for him.

-

**Holden's coming of age / the end of the piece**

## **1. The expression of Holden's coming of age (to change) - in the meeting with Phoebe - is very important**

### **You must read carefully and summarize the meeting between them Ltd. 155-178 +201**

#### **- The older Holden reacts to Phoebe's childish behavior.**

- Holden shuts her up and gets mad at her when she comes with luggage.
- Holden even thinks about hitting her. Reminds her of the matter of the show in which she must play an important and central role.
- Phoebe turns her back on him. Like he would turn his back on the world but he doesn't allow her to.
- Phoebe throws the hunter's hat in his face, thus symbolically expressing Holden's disconnection from the world of childhood which Phoebe now represents.  
She no longer sees him as part of her world. The relationship between them as children is over.
- Holden warns her not to be late for school. It is important to him that she obey the rules - which he himself broke.
- He makes her a promise to go to the zoo if she later goes to school - this is mature behavior.
- Phoebe turns his hand and he doesn't respond.
- Phoebe is portrayed as a child who wants to run away and he plays her (as an adult) decisively "I travel alone".
- They walk on both sides of the road and this is a situation that reminds of the boy from the church - he takes care of her as an adult.
- Vertigo - a symbol of the world of childhood. Holden stays downstairs and watches over her. He does not belong in a world that is dizzy.
- The golden ring embodies an ideal that is difficult to achieve. Trying to get her may lead to a fall in things (207) "**You have to give For them to do it and not say anything, if they fall, they fall.**" This is a clear expression of Holden's liberation from the ideal of the catcher.

#### **Holden accepts the fact that the children cannot be protected forever. They must fall and fail.**

- Holden's decision to return to his home and not flee west indicates a mature perception. The intermediate state in which Holden finds himself throughout the story comes to an end, but the book ends with another chapter.

Phoebe as a secondary character: she is a very significant character because of her.

**A.** We learn about Holden's qualities, loves and thoughts - we learn that he loves plays, children, dancing, respects his parents.

**B.** She advances the plot - pushes Holden to change in him - she corrects him in relation to the song he heard and in the last meeting with him he has no choice but to grow up (detailed above).

third. For him, she is the ideal figure that connects to the world of childhood.

## **2. Holden's coming of age according to chapter 25 - release from an intermediate state**

Holden discovers that harsh reality has penetrated the worlds of childhood: a museum and school. His attempt to erase the harsh words seems clearly unnecessary. Holden learns to accept reality and stops running from it. Holden begins to emerge from the intermediate state in which he is. He realizes that even death (symbolized by mummies) cannot To serve as a refuge from the reality of life.

The change at the end of the piece is expressed in:

1. Everything said above in relation to his meeting with Phoebe shows the change he went through - his maturation.

2. In his relation to the ideal of the catcher - he understands that there is no place for this ideal in the current world.

3. As he matured, Holden felt a clear and conscious need for human connection and not a repressed need as it was expressed in the young -

immature Holden.

4. He gets out of the egocentricity he was in - he thinks about others as well and not only about himself.

5. Passing from a state of misanthropic hatred (extreme hatred of man) to love and longing for people like Stradelter.

6. If at the beginning his speech with Sally, with Phoebe and with Antolino is incomprehensible and disorganized, then towards the end his speech is moderate more and organized.

7. Holden, indirectly, criticizes a certain activity of his such as: his escape plan with Sally. or the laughter

His offensive on Antolino.

8. In the end he accepts the reality more and therefore understands that there is a place to return to studies.

9. He understands that everyone must pass from childhood to adulthood. There is no possibility of staying in childhood. And it is impossible

Protect the children: they must fall and so they will learn to get up and move on.

10. He is ready to be hospitalized in a psychiatric hospital to get out of the problem. And at the end of the piece he is already quite healthy and ready to integrate into studies and life in general.

### ***Holden is released from the intermediate state but not completely***The evidence for this:

1. Even at the end, he continues to categorize people dichotomously. He still judges and criticizes "DB. He is not like the others (in his view, the others are bad.

2. At the end he says "don't tell others" so it is evident that he still wants to maintain anonymity that stems from a lack of self-confidence

.

3. He is still in the hospital - in a protected place - he still needs protection.

## **Holden's style**

Holden often uses expressions like "and in general", "all this", "they are nice and in general". Other common phrases in his mouth are "really", "the truth is", "this".

He slurs his mouth - (uses street language): stupid, filthy.

He makes generalizations: in the monastery everyone is a stupid bastard, the trouble with the girls, all the beautiful boys the same, the entertainers

Hate the whole world, people never believe.

His style is typical of a teenage boy, it seems that his style is sparse, limited, imprecise, at the same time - he is sensitive to the way people express themselves. The linguistic roughness only serves as a camouflage for the great sensitivity that is hidden in it. Proofs:

- Holden notes that English is the only subject in which he achieved good results. It is known that he writes beautiful verses.

- He abhors certain words that express forgery: wonderful Kabir, heavenly candy.

- Holden knows how to appreciate the style of others: "He had a beautiful and large vocabulary" - this is what he says about Luce.

- Holden has his own original expressions: "He gave his test and looked at me like he beat me at ping pong", "dancing with Marty was like carrying the Statue of Liberty".

The examples are instructive **that Holden is indeed sensitive**. Holden's style reflects it. It fits his personal character and social behavior - it's a style of **late 1990s teenagers** - Substandard language combined with slang, profanity and profanity. The style is **Anti-hero style** - A character who does not fit into the dominant (dominant) society and therefore he criticizes the society in blunt language - its values are fake and spoiled. This is an intellectual boy at the stupid age of ten who denounces the society that blocked his path to success. **The style gives credibility.**

**Salinger succeeds in building an impressive speaking style of Holden, suitable for his personal character as well as his social behavior,**

And it helps the reader to better understand Holden's character, gives her credibility and expresses his world views and his human and social perceptions.

**Holden's personal style is influenced and shaped by his age and character..**

Examples of this: such, such, something like that, in my life, to hell with it, to hell with it, crappy (215 times), stupid, depressing, stupid, rotten, scoundrel, ruin me, pervert, ....

## **The narrator's point of view:**

It is that of a witness and the hero of the story, who tells his words in the first person. Something that creates credibility (first-hand testimony).

And a subjective point of view because everything was written from his point of view only.

In many places there is a feeling that he is speaking directly to us - by his direct face that he is addressing the reader: "Hear "Hear".

If there is a question that refers to secondary characters:

It is possible to refer 1. to Phoebe as I mentioned or to the character of

## **2. Straddler:**

He is Holden's friend. Takes advantage of everyone. in love with himself He believes that he is the most beautiful in the Western Hemisphere. He asks Holden to write a theoretical essay for him. Holden, who is thirsty for friendship, is ready for this. Holden is hurt by Stradellater throwing the essay down the gauntlet and desecrating the memory of his dead brother. In addition, Holden sees him as the person who dishonored Jean's death.

He is described as a masked razor - his razor is filthy. Portrayed as an exploiter of women without any moral problem.

**character roles:** 1. Opposite to Holden and thus Holden's character can be strengthened. For example - the negative and exploitative attitude of Ster

Emphasizes the world of innocence and pure romance in which Holden is found.

2. In his conversation with Holden, we learn that Holden is the type who remembers details, for example: that she lost 8 pills and that she twists her mouth.

3. Straddler symbolizes American society. The wrong values that Holden rejects: hypocrisy, lies, exploitation.

4. He is one of the negative characters who push Holden to go on the three day journey.

5.



(These are only the heads of chapters, therefore, it is clear that it is mandatory to specify - after reading

\* \* If there is a question that refers to Criticism of Holden:

### **Phoebe and Antolino are the characters who criticize Holden**

#### **1. Phoebe:**

A.. "You don't like anything" Holden tells her that he likes his brother and James Castle who committed suicide and she replies

To him: You repeat it every time." She asks him to tell about someone alive and not dead as he does. In Phoebe's opinion there is no room for disqualification.

B. According to Phoebe Holden dismisses values but does not give them an alternative that will help.

third. When Phoebe corrects him in the song and tells him that they say he meets and does not catch, she is actually criticizing him for not being able to meet people face to face.

#### **The narrator specifically chose Phoebe because: Phoebe:**

- She is the only one to whom he is willing to open up and tell.
- For him, it reflects the antithesis to the violent and difficult society.
- She is the only one who is genuinely interested in him.

#### **2. Antolino:**He warns him of extreme situations such as the hatred for everyone in which he finds himself.

He watches Holden fall.

He tries to put a correct perspective on Holden's view of things.

#### **The narrator specifically chose Antolino because: :Antolino:-**

Gave him shelter and tried to convince D. b not to go to Hollywood.

- According to Holden, this is the best teacher he's ever had and he's also the only one he's ever had.
- In addition, he is the only one who approached the boy who committed suicide.

In addition to that a. These two characters are the most beloved characters on Holden.

B. Some see the figures as the representatives of the correct value - moral - system. through which conveys

The narrator has his opinion regarding the right way.

You must remember **Because it is your duty to read the book** So that you can specify - what

**What is summarized here is taken from audit books and is not enough for the matriculation exam**

