

**SOUTH LAKES HIGH SCHOOL  
Summer Reading Assignment  
Pre-IB English 10  
Summer, 2009**

*A Separate Peace*  
by  
John Knowles



"The tree was tremendous...(6)."

In preparation for the Pre-IB 10 Program at South Lakes High School, all Rising Sophomore Pre-IB students will be required to (1) **read *A Separate Peace***, by John Knowles, and (2) **complete the attached charts**. These charts will be collected on the first day the English class meets in September and will be used as a basis for **discussions** and **writing assignments**. Also, during the first week of school students will complete a variety of additional activities and assignments, including a **test** on the material, in order to complete the study of this book.

### **Assignment for *A Separate Peace***

**Directions:** Complete the charts on the following pages of this assignment. On each chart record **textual evidence** that illustrates any two (two of your choice, out of the three given on each page) of the characters, symbols, images, and themes. Carefully consider the conclusions you draw from the passages. Move beyond plot; strive for depth of understanding. Be specific and complete with your answers. You will provide information for **TWO CHOICES FOR EACH CHART**. Document quoted passages using correct MLA format (see example below).

Example of MLA citation: "The tree was tremendous, an irate, steely black steeple beside the river"(6).

NOTE: If you would like to order your book online, you will receive a 5% discount + free shipping! Go to: <http://akjbookclub.net>

**CHARACTERS.** Choose any two characters. Find at least **two examples each** of key passages describing the characters' personalities.

Character	Textual Reference	Page #	Character Traits Revealed
Finny			
Gene			
Brinker or Leper			

**SYMBOLS.** Choose any two of the following symbols. Find at least **two passages each**, where Knowles uses these items to represent bigger ideas than the literal item itself. In the last column, discuss their significance and meaning.

Symbol	Textual evidence	Page #	Significance/Meaning
The Tree			
Devon River or Naguamsett River			
Blitzball or The Super Suicide Society of the Summer Session			

**MOTIFS.** Choose any two of the following motifs. List at least **two passages each** that clearly indicate symbolic use of the items / concepts. In the last column, explain the significance.

Motifs	Textual evidence	Page #	Significance
War  or  Fear			
Games  or  Rules			
Seasons  or  Nature			

**THEMES.** Choose any two of the following themes. List at least two passages that clearly indicate thematic implication. In the last column, draw a conclusion about what the author may be attempting to say.

Themes	Textual evidence	Page #	Significance/Meaning
Guilt vs. Innocence			
Friendship vs. Rivalry			
Conformity vs. Alienation			