

# John Knowles' *A Separate Peace*: Summer Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-AP English I Summer Assignment  
Fall 2019

This test consists of 15 multiple choice questions and an expository essay prompt.

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. Who sends Gene a note to gather Finny's things?

- (a) Dr. Carhart
- (b) Brinker
- (c) Dr. Stanpole
- (d) Finny

2. What does Gene kick over during his argument with Leper?

- (a) A cabinet
- (b) A table
- (c) A book
- (d) A chair

3. Finny says he can detect conspiracy and others cannot because he has \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Read about it
- (b) Witnessed it
- (c) Learned
- (d) Suffered

4. What does Finny say he deploras?

- (a) Gene's attitude
- (b) The food
- (c) The war
- (d) Gene's clothing choice

**5. Who does Gene spend more time with?**

- (a) Chet**
- (b) Brinker**
- (c) Leper**
- (d) Finny**

**6. What does Finny insist must have made Gene bounce the branch that day?**

- (a) Blind impulse**
- (b) Stupidity**
- (c) Vengeance**
- (d) Madness**

**7. What does Dr. Stanpole plan to do later that day?**

- (a) Operate on Finny's ankle**
- (b) Set the bone**
- (c) Transport Finny elsewhere**
- (d) Take x-rays**

**8. What happens to Finny as he leaves the room?**

- (a) He falls down the marble staircase**
- (b) He kills himself**
- (c) He runs into Leper**
- (d) He curses Gene**

**9. What are the boys covered in after doing work by the tracks?**

- (a) Snow**
- (b) Soot and dirt**
- (c) Tar**
- (d) Paint**

**10. What do Gene and the others do to help the troops?**

- (a) Ration their food**
- (b) Cut down on gas usage**
- (c) Build new railroad tracks**
- (d) Shovel snow from the railroad tracks**

**11. Whose memory is considered to be perfect?**

- (a) Brinker**
- (b) Gene**
- (c) Finny**
- (d) Leper**

**12. Where do the students go to smoke?**

- (a) The tree**
- (b) Outside**
- (c) The bathroom**
- (d) Butt Room**

**13. Where has the writer of the cryptic telegram gone?**

- (a) Winter Session**
- (b) Butt Room**
- (c) Assembly Room**
- (d) Christmas Location**

**14. What does Finny accuse Gene of wanting to do?**

- (a) Break something else**
- (b) Be just like Finny**
- (c) Beat him**
- (d) Ruin his life**

**15. Who fights a private war—a war against Finny and his own dark nature?**

- (a) Brinker**
- (b) Leper**
- (c) John**
- (d) Gene**

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**Essay Prompt**

***A Separate Peace: Compare and Contrast Gene and Finny***

In John Knowles' novel *A Separate Peace*, the character Gene is the narrator. The story takes place at the Devon School, a private school, during World War II. The action mainly takes place as a flashback to the time in which Gene attended the school. During his time at Devon, Gene developed a friendship with another character, Finny. The main focus of the story is the relationship between Gene and Finny. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast the characters Gene and Fenny. Would you say that Gene and Finny are more alike or more different? Please provide support. Provide evidence from the book, and cite page numbers where evidence is found.

***Below is an example of showing the page where evidence is found. You may use one or the other format:***

On page 50, the author shows how Finny tries to convince Gene that there is no need to study. Finny says, "\_\_\_\_\_."

**Or**

Finny tries to convince Gene that there is no need to study. Finny says, "\_\_\_\_\_"  
(Knowles 50).