

## **FRESHMEN**

### **JCA SUMMER READING PROGRAM**

Welcome to the JCA summer reading program. Find your class and follow the directions.

**English IC-** Read **The Lightning Thief** by Rick Riordan

Be prepared for discussion and a test on the novel within the first week of school. Answer the following questions and be prepared to hand them in.

1. Make a list of 10 different Greek gods and record their domain ( what they represent).
2. What qualities of Percy's life tell him that he is special or are the qualities that all demi-gods possess?
3. What is Percy's relationship with Poseidon?
4. What is Poseidon's domain and as a result what can Percy control?
5. How are gods different from humans?
6. How are gods like humans?
7. How is the immortal world different from the mortal world?
8. How is the immortal world similar to the mortal world?
9. Who is the lightning thief?
10. Would you rather be a god, demi-god, a human, a centaur, a satyr, a wood nymph, a Nereid, or a monster? Why??

**English IU-** Read **The Dead and the Gone** by Susan Beth Pfeffer

Take notes on each chapter and be prepared for class discussion and a test within the first few days of school.

**English IA-** Read **A Separate Peace** by John Knowles and do the following activities. Take notes on each chapter for future reference. A test will also be given on the novel. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

#### **Chapter 1**

1. What two things does Gene return to Devon to see? How does he feel about each?
2. Describe the relationship between the narrator and Phineas.
3. Why must Gene, against his better judgment, jump from the tree? How does this and his later "wrestling match" with Finny affect their relationship? What does this tell you about the personalities of the two?

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#### **Chapter 2**

4. Who is Mr. Prud'homme? How does he react to Finny's story about why they missed dinner?
5. What explanation does Finny give for the pink shirt?
6. Describe Finny's belt? How does he justify it?

7. Why does Gene get a feeling of disappointment?

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### **Chapter 3**

8. Why does Finny invent "blitzball" and how is it representative of him?
  9. After Finny breaks the swimming record, what does he make Gene promise? Why? What does this show about Finny? How does it make Gene feel?
  10. What courageous thing does Finny admit to Gene before they go to sleep on the beach? What is Gene's response? What does this show about each boy?
  11. Gene has conflicting emotions about Finny having "practically saved his life" because it was Finny's fault he "practically lost" it. However, Gene continues to go to the nightly meetings and jumps from the tree without protest. Why do you think he does this?
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### **Chapter 4**

12. What does Finny accuse Gene of striving for? Is he? Is Finny jealous?
  13. What does Gene determine that he and Finny are even in? Why?
  14. What second realization does Gene have about Finny? Is this correct?
  15. Before they reach the tree, what does Gene realize about the rivalry between them? How does he feel about this?
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### **Chapter 5**

16. Gene wants to tell Finny the truth about what happened and begins to do so. Why is it important for him to tell the truth? Who will it help more, him or Finny? Why?
  17. Even when Gene tells Finny the truth, that he caused Finny to fall, Finny is unable to believe it and denies it. Why does he react this way? Why do you think Finny cannot believe the truth even when he hears it?
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### **Chapter 6**

18. What are the names of the two rivers at Devon? Describe each one. What and who do they symbolize?
  19. Why does Gene hit Quackenbush? What could be the hidden reason?
  20. Why does Gene feel his purpose is to "become part of Phineas?" What do you think Gene means by this? Why would he want or need to become a part of Phineas?
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### **Chapter 7**

21. Describe how Gene manages to maintain control when he is "accused" in the Butt Room. Why does he react this way?
  22. Why do you think Gene is unable to say he had pushed Finny out of the tree?
  23. What does Leper Lepellier do while the other boys aid in the war effort? What does this show about Leper's personality?
  24. What is Gene's reaction to Brinker's announcement that he will enlist the following day? What decision does Gene make? Why?
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### **Chapter 8**

25. When Gene realizes Finny is returning, about what does Gene change his mind? How would you interpret this change of mind?
26. What are the conclusions Finny has about the war? Why do you think he says this?

27. What is the plan Finny develops for Gene? Why does Finny develop a plan and why does Gene agree to it? What could this show about the mental state of each boy?
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### **Chapter 9**

28. What conclusion does Leper come to about everything after seeing the war film? Analyze this.
29. To what does Gene attribute his surpassing himself in the decathlon? Analyze this.
30. What occurs that causes the special and separate peace of that afternoon to drain away?
31. Leper concludes that everything has to evolve or else it perishes. Gene asked himself how Leper's theory applies to him, to Phineas, and to Leper. How do you think Leper's theory might apply to each of the three boys?
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### **Chapter 10**

32. Why does Gene react with fear to Leper's use of the word psycho? Explain why Leper thinks maybe it is the army that is psycho. Analyze this conclusion.
33. When Leper accuses Gene of being a savage underneath, what example does he use to make his point?
34. By the end of lunch, Gene is certain that Leper's mother is convinced Gene is a good boy underneath. Gene states that Leper was closer to the truth when he said Gene was a savage underneath. What is your opinion of Gene? Is he a good boy or is he a savage?
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### **Chapter 11**

35. Why does Brinker believe Gene has put off enlisting?
36. When Gene and Finny are discussing Caesar, Finny tells Gene he does not believe books and teachers but that he does believe Gene, and that he knows Gene better than anybody. Why does Finny need to believe Gene? Does he really know Gene?
37. Brinker tells the group that for both Finny and Gene's good, the matter of Finny's accident should be brought out into the open. He then tells Finny they aren't trying to make him feel bad. What do you think is Brinker's motivation for imagining himself, as Gene puts it, "Justice Incarnate?"
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### **Chapter 12**

38. When Gene takes Finny's suitcase to the Infirmary, what does Finny admit he has been doing all winter? What has been the result? Analyzed Finny's behavior.
39. Gene tells Finny that what he did to him wasn't anything personal, that it was just some ignorance inside him. Is Gene telling Finny the truth? Recall Gene's realization right before the jump - that there hadn't, after all, been any rivalry between him and Finny.
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### **Chapter 13**

40. Why does Gene conclude that none of the Devon boys ever accused him of being responsible for Gene's death?
41. Gene comments that he was ready for the war since he no longer had any hatred to contribute to it. What does he mean by this?
42. From Gene's experience with his own enemy, what conclusion does he come to about enemies in general? What do you think Gene is suggesting about human nature in the last paragraph of the novel?