

Name _____

Pd. _____

A Separate Peace: Chapter 13 Reading and Study Guide

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel and in class discussion.

poignant _____

bellicose _____

scowl _____

Maginot Lines: a system of heavy fortifications built before World War II on the eastern frontier of France; it failed to prevent invasion by the Nazi armies.

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the novel.

theme: _____

What are some of the major themes of this novel?

III. QUESTIONS: answer the following questions. Use complete sentences.

1. What do Gene and Brinker see being carried in the trucks?
2. What does Gene tell Mr. Hadley is plan for avoiding the war?
3. Gene says to Mr. Hadley, "And then Brinker is all set for the Coast Guard, which is good too." Then Gene tells that "Mr. Hadley's scowl deepened." What does Gene mean when he says "which is good too"?
4. Why does Mr. Hadley think it is important to try to get in the front lines of the fighting?
5. Besides that Gene is actually done with school, what do you think he means when says, "My schooling was over for now"?

IV. Passages: the following passage might prove to be important. Re-read the sections with these passages and think about why they might be significant? What do they mean? What are important ideas, imagery, or words? How do they add to the story or a theme? Do they incorporate any literary devices?

As Gene sees the trucks coming to Devon, he says, “I thought the Jeeps looked noticeably uncomfortable from all the power they were not being allowed to use. There is no stage you comprehend better than the one you have just left, and as I watched the Jeeps almost asserting a wish to bounce up the side of Mount Washington at eighty miles an hour instead of rolling along this dull street, they reminded me, in a comical and a poignant way, of adolescents.”

“[I]t seemed clear that wars were not made by generations and their special stupidities, but that wars were made instead by something ignorant in the human heart.”