

A Paper Analyzing Theme in *A Separate Peace*

English 2 • Thompson

Directions: For this assignment you will write a paper of between 700-800 words in which you analyze a theme in John Knowles' book *A Separate Peace*. Use some of the discussion ideas we have generated in class to form a thesis sentence which specifies an overall message or truth that you think the novel contains. Then identify places in the novel that you can point to which will serve as proof that your thesis is valid. Your paper will argue that the theme you have selected is legitimate.

Some points to remember:

1. Complete a prewriting outline on the form provided in class. This outline must contain your thesis, the topic sentences for each paragraph, and some details (quotes or other examples) that you will be using in the paper.
2. As you write the paper, remember that each paragraph must start with a topic sentence and end with a concluding sentence.
3. You must include two or more direct quotes from the novel that help to prove your main point. Include the page number for the quote using MLA guidelines.
4. This short paper must be typed. Put the proper heading on page one; no title page is necessary.
5. Your paper must meet the minimum requirements (700 words typed & two quotes) or it will not be accepted. No incomplete papers will be accepted.