



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

A Separate Peace

John Knowles

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

A Separate Peace

John Knowles

STUDENT PACKET

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

ISBN 978-1-50204-958-2

Copyright infringement is a violation of Federal Law.

© 2020 by Novel Units, Inc., St. Louis, MO. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any way or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without prior written permission from Novel Units, Inc.

Reproduction of any part of this publication for an entire school or for a school system, by for-profit institutions and tutoring centers, or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited.

Novel Units is a registered trademark of Conn Education.

Printed in the United States of America.

To order, contact your
local school supply store, or:

Toll-Free Fax: 877.716.7272

Phone: 888.650.4224

3901 Union Blvd., Suite 155

St. Louis, MO 63115

sales@novelunits.com

novelunits.com

Name _____

Personification

Personification is a technique used to give inanimate objects some characteristics of humans or animals.

Example (page 18): "The chocolate brown wicker furniture shot out menacing twigs..."

The furniture, of course, was totally inanimate, but the image of it shooting out twigs in a menacing way is one with which we can identify, and is more colorful and interesting than simply saying that the furniture had a lot of sharp twigs sticking out of it.

Skim the pages indicated below to find other examples of personification, and write them down. Then write your own personification phrases for the objects listed at the bottom of the page.

page 2

page 4

page 6

page 23

page 27

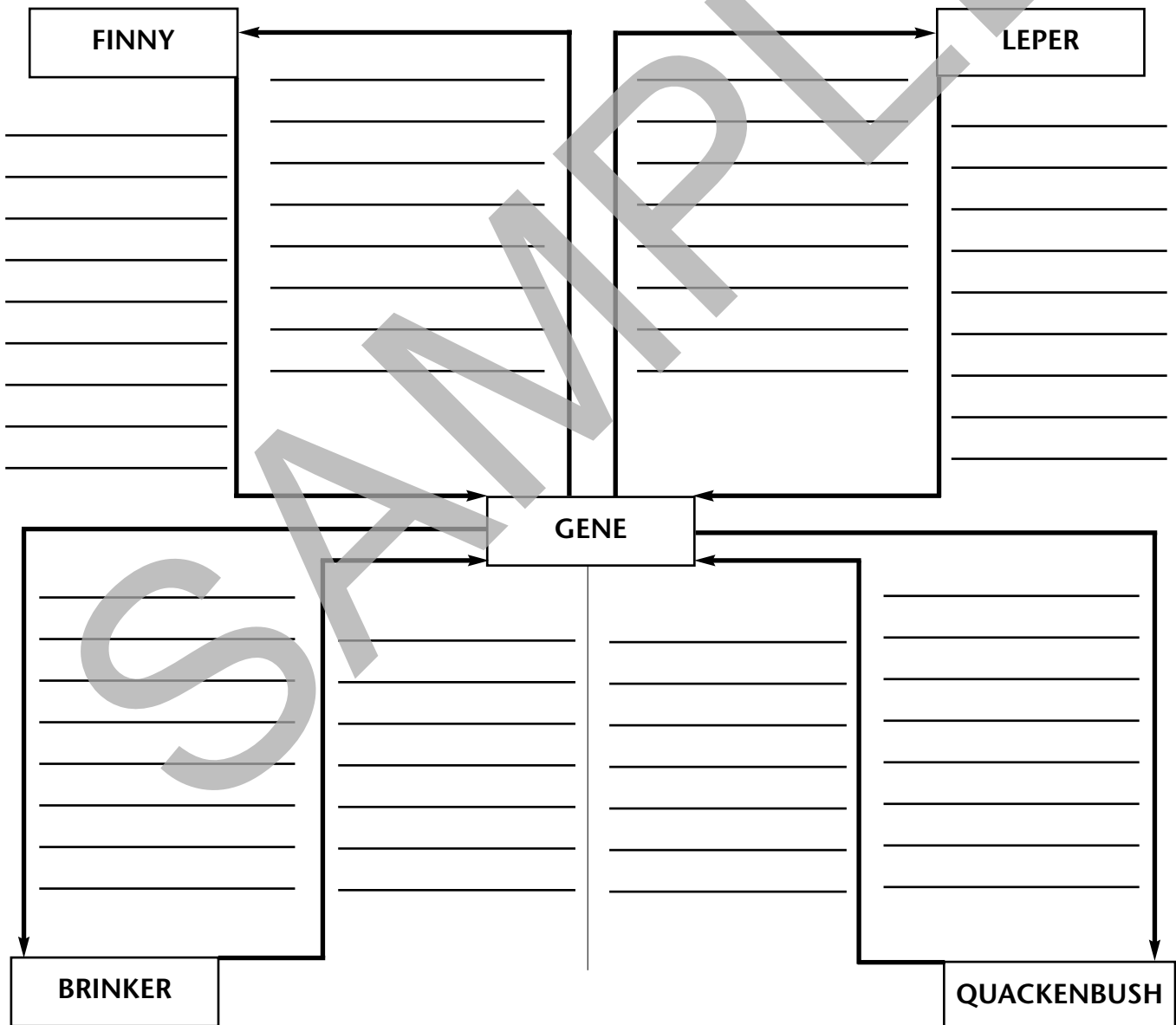
a rock

a house

a snowstorm

Sociogram

Gene, the narrator, is usually considered the central character of *A Separate Peace*. The way he relates to other characters in the novel, and the way they in turn relate to him, help the reader to better understand Gene as well as the others. Complete the sociogram for Gene by writing a phrase or two describing how he acts and feels toward each character under the arrows pointing away from Gene. Next to the arrows pointing back to Gene, write several phrases telling how the characters act and feel toward Gene.



Study Guide

1. How does the narrator feel about being back at Devon? Why do you suppose he has returned there?
2. How does the tree's appearance surprise the narrator?
3. How did Gene feel about jumping from the tree?
4. How do the teachers feel about Finny? How do they treat him?
5. Do you see any change in Gene's feelings about Finny during the episode when Finny wears the school tie as a belt?
6. What rules does Finny keep? Does he obey school rules?
7. What game did Finny develop? Did Gene like the game?
8. What school record does Finny break? Why does he want Gene to keep quiet about this achievement?
9. Where do Gene and Finny go to spend the night?
10. What suspicions does Gene develop about Finny after he fails his trigonometry test? Do you think his suspicions are valid?
11. Why does Finny fall from the tree?
12. How bad is Finny's injury? How does Gene feel about it?
13. How does Finny react to Gene's confession?
14. Compare the mood of summer session at Devon with that of the winter term.
15. Why does Gene want to be Assistant Crew Manager?
16. What one word does Quackenbush utter that causes Gene to fight him?
17. Why does Finny telephone Gene?
18. Of what does Brinker jokingly accuse Gene?