A Separate Peace
By John Knowles

1. Why does Gene feel the need to tell this story? __________________________

2. What is the setting of the book with regards to the time of year? Why is it significant?

3. What is the tone of the summer session and how is it established?

4. What is Finny’s pink shirt an emblem of? __________________________

5. Why is Gene unable to return Finny’s avowal of friendship? __________________________

6. What event sets off Gene’s feelings of rivalry against Finny? __________________________

7. How do Finny and Gene’s feelings about their rivalry differ? __________________________

8. What confession does Gene make in Chapter 5? __________________________

9. What does Finny want Gene to do in his place? __________________________

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10. How is the war an influence on the students’ lives?

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11. What is Finny’s opinion about the war?

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12. What is used continually throughout the novel as a metaphor for war?

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13. Which boy enlists in the army?

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14. Why does Leper need Gene’s help?

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15. What does Leper accuse Gene of?

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16. What is the purpose of the trial in Chapter 11?

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17. What does Dr. Stanpole tell Gene about Finny?

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18. Where does Gene go at the end of the book?

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