

Study Guide
A Separate Peace
with Connections

To the Parent:

We strongly recommend that you read all literary works before assigning them to determine whether or not they are appropriate for your students. If you are teaching two or more students who are close in age, have them read ***A Separate Peace*** at the same time so that they may discuss the book and work cooperatively. Also, consider collaborating with other homeschool families for group activities and projects. Below are some suggestions for familiarizing yourself with ***A Separate Peace***, its author, and its context:

- Read **The Novel at a Glance**, pp. 12-13: a brief overview of the entire novel.
- Read **Plot Synopsis and Literary Elements**, pp. 15-23: brief synopses of the plot and an overview of the novel's themes, characters, and other important elements for each section of the novel.
- Read **About the Writer**, pp. 6-7: biographical information about the author and his works.
- Read **About the Novel**, pp. 8-11: historical and literary context of the novel, along with critical responses.
- Read **Using This Study Guide and Reaching All Students**, pp. 3-4: ideas for making the reading more accessible to students of different levels, interests, and learning styles.
- Read **Reader's Log: Model, Reader's Log: Starters, Double Entry Journal: Models, and Group Discussion Log**, pp. 24-27: suggestions for reading actively, discussing the novel, and responding to it in writing.
- Read **Assessment Options**, p. 5: suggestions for various types of assessment that are appropriate for this novel.

Pacing Guide	
Week 1	Introduction and Chapters 1-3
Week 2	Chapters 4-6
Week 3	Chapters 7-8
Week 4	Chapters 9-11
Week 5	Chapters 12-13
Week 6	Assessment, Extensions, Projects, and Literary Connections

C = Core Instruction

E = Enrichment Activities

O = Optional Extensions and Connections

Introducing students to the novel: Motivating activities	
C	Select one or more activities from Introducing the Novel , p. 14. These activities activate students' background knowledge and help them connect with the story's themes. You may want to adapt the media activity by participating yourself, or coordinating with other homeschoolers.
Chapters 1 – 3	
C	Have students read Chapters 1-3 of <i>A Separate Peace</i> .
C	Remind students to refer to the Glossary and Vocabulary on p. 28 as needed.
C	Use Reading Check , p. 30, to verify basic comprehension of the story. The Answer Key is on p. 76.
C	The questions in Making Meanings , p. 30, move students from their immediate personal response to higher-level critical thinking about the book and its themes. A targeted Writing Opportunity is also provided. The Answer Key is on p. 76.
E	Novel Notes , Issue 1, p. 32, expands upon the topics and themes of this section of the novel and includes a writing suggestion for a Reader's Log .
E	Select one or more activities from Choices: Building Your Portfolio , p. 33.
O	Have students use the Novel Review , pp. 50-51, to keep track of the characters and events of the entire book.
O	The Reading Strategies Worksheet , p. 31, focuses on the characterization of Gene and Finny in Chapters 1-3. The Answer Key is on p. 77.
Chapters 4 – 6	
C	Have students read Chapters 4-6 of <i>A Separate Peace</i> .
C	Remind students to refer to the Glossary and Vocabulary on p. 28 as needed.
C	Use Reading Check , p. 34, to verify basic comprehension of the story. The Answer Key is on p. 77.
C	The questions in Making Meanings , p. 34, move students from their immediate personal response to higher-level critical thinking about the book and its themes. A targeted Writing Opportunity is also provided. The Answer Key is on pp. 77-78.
E	Novel Notes , Issue 2, p. 36, expands upon the topics and themes of this section of the novel and includes a writing suggestion for a Reader's Log .
E	Select one or more activities from Choices: Building Your Portfolio , p. 37.
O	Have students update the Novel Review , pp. 50-51, with information gleaned from Chapters 4-6.
O	The Reading Strategies Worksheet , p. 35, has students examine and evaluate the conclusions drawn by Gene in Chapters 4-6. The Answer Key is on p. 78.

Chapters 7 – 8	
C	Have students read Chapters 7-8 of <i>A Separate Peace</i> .
C	Remind students to refer to the Glossary and Vocabulary on pp. 28-29 as needed.
C	Use Reading Check , p. 38, to verify basic comprehension of the story. The Answer Key is on p. 78.
C	The questions in Making Meanings , p. 38, move students from their immediate personal response to higher-level critical thinking about the book and its themes. A targeted Writing Opportunity is also provided. The Answer Key is on pp. 78-79.
E	Novel Notes , Issue 3, p. 40, expands upon the topics and themes of this section of the novel and includes a writing suggestion for a Reader’s Log .
E	Select one or more activities from Choices: Building Your Portfolio , p. 41.
O	Have students update the Novel Review , pp. 50-51, with information gleaned from Chapters 7-8.
O	The Reading Strategies Worksheet , p. 39, focuses on the series of causes and effects that wind through Chapters 7-8. The Answer Key is on p. 79.
O	Vocabulary Worksheet 1 , pp. 57-58, provides practice with targeted vocabulary words from the novel. The Answer Key is on p. 83.
Chapters 9 – 11	
C	Have students read Chapters 9-11 of <i>A Separate Peace</i> .
C	Remind students to refer to the Glossary and Vocabulary on p. 29 as needed.
C	Use Reading Check , p. 42, to verify basic comprehension of the story. The Answer Key is on p. 80.
C	The questions in Making Meanings , p. 42, move students from their immediate personal response to higher-level critical thinking about the book and its themes. A targeted Writing Opportunity is also provided. The Answer Key is on pp. 80-81.
E	Novel Notes , Issue 4, p. 44, expands upon the topics and themes of this section of the novel and includes a writing suggestion for a Reader’s Log .
E	Select one or more activities from Choices: Building Your Portfolio , p. 45.
O	Have students update the Novel Review , pp. 50-51, with information gleaned from Chapters 9-11.
O	The Reading Strategies Worksheet , p. 43, has students summarize the testimonies given at Gene’s “trial.” The Answer Key is on p. 81.

Chapters 12 – 13	
C	Have students read Chapters 12-13 of <i>A Separate Peace</i> .
C	Remind students to refer to the Glossary and Vocabulary on p. 29 as needed.
C	Use Reading Check , p. 46, to verify basic comprehension of the story. The Answer Key is on p. 81.
C	The questions in Making Meanings , p. 46, move students from their immediate personal response to higher-level critical thinking about the book and its themes. A targeted Writing Opportunity is also provided. The Answer Key is on pp. 81-82.
E	Novel Notes , Issue 5, p. 48, expands upon the topics and themes of this section of the novel and includes a writing suggestion for a Reader's Log .
E	Select one or more activities from Choices: Building Your Portfolio , p. 49.
O	Have students update the Novel Review , pp. 50-51, with information gleaned from Chapters 12-13.
O	The Reading Strategies Worksheet , p. 45, focuses on the organization of information from the novel. The Answer Key is on p. 82.
O	Vocabulary Worksheet 2 , pp. 59-60, provides practice with targeted vocabulary words from the novel. The Answer Key is on p. 84.
Assessment	
C	Test Part I, p. 70, contains objective true/false and fill-in-the-blank questions. Test Part II, pp. 71-72, includes ten short-answer questions. Test Part III, p. 73, asks students to choose two of six essay topics. The Answer Key is on pp. 88-90.
E	Include the Choices: Building Your Portfolio activities you selected as part of your assessment of your students' skills and progress.
Extensions, Projects, and Literary Connections	
O	The Novel Projects activities on p. 61 provide critical and creative writing suggestions for students. Activity suggestions on p. 62 draw cross-curricular connections between the book and disciplines such as world history, sociology, science, Latin, social studies, and music. Multimedia and Internet activity suggestions are on p. 63.
O	Literary Elements Worksheets , pp. 52-56, guide students in analyzing narration, motif, conflict, theme, and allegory in the story. The Answer Key is on pp. 82-83.
O	Exploring the Connections worksheets, pp. 66-69, provide a set of Making Meanings questions, a Connecting with the Novel activity, and a Reading Check for each of the Connections readings. Critical thinking activities encourage students to relate other reading selections to the themes and topics of the novel. The Answer Key is on pp. 84-88.