Miriam Rock Masters Portfolio

## **Appendix C, Artifact 14**

### **Nicole Close Reading, Stages 4-6**

#### Passage:

"The mark of an immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one."

## Stage 4: Analyze grammar, punctuation, and tense.

#### Grammar

- "He"
  - I personally do not feel like the pronoun "He" had a significant meaning in this passage. I feel like "he" is what represents the type of man that is being talked about at the moment.

#### **Punctuation**

- "The mark of an immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one."
- In this passage the comma is used to separate the two sentences. This can have significant meaning to the idea being expressed in this passage because it shows that there is a fine line between an immature and a mature man. It's like the passage is physically separating the two men by itself.

#### Tense

- Wants
  - to feel a need or a desire for; wish for:
  - to be without or be deficient in:
  - o to fall short by
    - In this passage, the word "wants" is used to describe a type of wish or desire. In the line "The mark of an immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause", helps readers understand what the man wants to do in the future.
- Live
  - o to continue in existence, operation, memory, etc.; last:
  - to dwell or reside
  - to feed or subsist
    - The word "live" in this passage helps us visualize the future. In the line "while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one.", it is explaining what a man wants to live for. It's hard to determine whether "live" is being used in present tense, future tense, or both, but regardless of the tense the passage withholds the same meaning.

# Stage 5: Explore how larger themes of the novel make us understand this excerpt better.

• This passage falls into the theme of growth and maturity. In this passage, it talks about the motives men have depending on their maturity levels. It also talks about the reasoning behind their wants.

- This theme changes the meaning of the passage because it makes us think about the significance behind their motives and think about why they have these motives.
- The theme does make me understand this passage in several different ways. The use of certain words do have a big factor in my perception of the passage. The theme of growth and maturity help me understand that this passage is trying to make me understand the different values men could have. It really helped me think hard on the concept.
- I think this theme just makes me wonder what was holding Holden back from growing up and maturing into a bright young man.

## Stage 6: Identify how this passage contributes to the major themes in the novel as a whole

- Inferiority
  - On This passage contributes to the idea of Inferiority because it defines the difference between a mature and an immature man. I feel like this draws a perfect image of Holden's relationship with his family because he feels like he doesn't live up to their standards. When he talks about his family, it's like he's so proud and amazed in what they have accomplished, but when he talks about himself it's like he has a little disappointment. This passage talks a lot about motives and goals set by different types of men and to be honest I feel like Holden does not have successful motives.
- Struggles of Growing Up
  - On This passage also fits into the idea of the struggle of growing up because at Holden's age, he should be expected to have his future some what figured out. His head is not in the right place and he carries the "I don't care about anything" attitude which is very childish and immature. His perspective on things/people don't really make him look so bright either. Therefore, I feel like Holden struggles with maturing and seeing the bigger picture rather than dwelling on all the negative things in his life.