

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Part One **Reading:**

1. Review *The Catcher in the Rye*.
2. Review *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*.
3. Read Tennessee Williams' *Sweet Bird of Youth*. (my current seniors may sell you their copies)
4. Read Andrea Levy's *Small Island*.

Part Two **Writing and Research:**

5. From the readings above, find, cite and annotate *ten quotes* for *each* of the following main characters: **Holden Caulfield, Oscar Wao, Chance Wayne, Heavenly Finley, Boss Finley, Princess, Queenie, Hortense, Gilbert, and Bernard** that you believe best define them.
 - a) Quotes may be typed and glued on the front of an Index Card.
 - b) Annotations must be written in your own handwriting on the back of an Index Card
 - c) You should title the front of each card with the name of the work and the character.
 - d) Secure all cards with a rubber band or a giant paper clip.
 - e) DUE: The first day of class.

or example: (front of Index Card)

The Catcher in the Rye - **Holden Caulfield**

"My brother Allie had this left-handed fielder's mitt. He was left-handed. The thing that was descriptive about it, though, was that he had poems written all over the fingers and the pocket and everywhere. In green ink. He wrote them on it so that he'd have something to read when he was in the field and nobody was up at bat. He's dead now. He got leukemia and died when we were up in Maine, on July 18, 1946. You'd have liked him. He was two years younger than I was, but he was about fifty times as intelligent. He was terrifically intelligent. His teachers were always writing letters to my mother, telling her what a pleasure it was having a boy like Allie in their class" (Chapter 5, Paragraph 7).

(back of Index Card)

Holden is dramatically-defined not only by the tragic death of his brother, Allie, but also by the depth of the "Survivor's Guilt" from which he suffers. In this quote, Salinger depicts how very much Holden admires Allie. We can infer that Holden thinks the world would be a better place if Allie had lived and that he, instead, had died.

