

English 9 Honors

Students will read *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom and *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles. They will complete both assignments below.

Assignment #1:

Many statements throughout Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* invite us to reflect upon their meaning and agree or disagree with them. Respond to two of the quotations below with:

- A. A two or three sentence explanation of the quotation; which character makes the statement? What does this statement mean in relation to the plot of the story?
- B. A reflection-What are your own thoughts about the statement as it relates to your life and experiences? Do you agree with the statement? Why or why not? Provide some experiences that shape your opinion. Your reflection for each selected quotation should be at least two paragraphs. Feel free to write more if you wish.

"But all endings are also beginnings." (1)

"Every life has one true-love snapshot." (9)

"But the running boy is inside every man, no matter how old he gets." (29)

"War could bond men like a magnet, but like a magnet it could repel them, too." (65)

"Sacrifice is part of life." (93)

"All parents damage their children." (110)

"You have peace...when you make it with yourself." (113)

"Which was worse left unexplained: a life, or a death?" (140)

"But he didn't [say it]. Eddie never said anything he felt that deeply." (151)

"People they say 'find' love, as if it were an object hidden by a rock. But love takes many forms, and it is never the same for any man and woman." (155)

"Life has to end...love doesn't". (173)

Assignment #2:

At the end of the novel Gene says "...my war ended before I even put on a uniform; I was on active duty all my time at school; I killed my enemy there." A Time magazine essay about the novel states, "...one of the things the novelist seems to be saying is that the enemy Gene killed, and loved, is the one every man must kill: his own youth, the innocence that burns too hotly to be endured."

Do you believe every person must leave his innocence behind in order to mature? Why or why not? Your response should be at least one paragraph, but feel free to write more.