

Student: Holden Caulfield

**Teacher:** Rick Gordon **Course:** 11-12 Humanities:

Global Studies

Academic Credit: ~ Course Description: This is a demanding class. We began the year studying world geography and the concept of culture in various settings. This was followed by a focus on Africa, working with folktales, reading Notes from the Hyena's Belly, analyzing demographic information, working on individual projects, and completing an end-of-term test. We focused particularly on the skills of information handling, making connections, and communication (especially writing). In addition, we learned to use Excel spreadsheets to help in the analysis of information. This work required students to think deeply and exercise good work habits. These expectations seem essential for graduation and for success in life after Compass. This class also asked students to work in a variety of areas; this diversity of experiences hopefully taps into areas of student strength and interest but also areas

that are a stretch.

2012-2013	1 <sup>st</sup> semester-	
	KNOWLEDGE	
Knowledge and understanding	Map and Culture Test, Africa Test	В
Application of knowledge	Africa Project, Demo. Report, Writing	A-
Making connections	Africa Project, Demographic Report	A+
	THINKING & REASONING	
Questioning and Inquiry	In-class discussion, Asking for help	В
Numerousy	Demographics, Mapping Contest	A+
	PERSONAL DEVELOPEMENT	
Respect for self & the learning process	Use of class time	С
Self-direction	Homework, Finishing Assignments	B+
Organization	Notetaking, materials	В
	COMMUNICATION	
Writing	Autobiography, BF and Walpole Essays, Folktale, Africa Projects	B+
Reading	Study Questions, Class discussion	A-
Information Handling	Africa Project, Demographic Report, Maps	A
Presenting in a variety of formats	Use of Excel, Graphs, Tables, Graphics	A-
	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
Social Skills	Class Participation, Interaction	B+
Leadership	Setting an example for others	D

Narrative Indicator:

1<sup>st</sup> Semester: I greatly enjoy having Holden in class. He rose to the challenge in this class for the most part and showed what he is capable of. On his demographic projects, Holden shows exceptional ability to make connections and handle information—this is at graduation quality already. He is able to grasp concepts, access information, read well, and write with clarity (most of the time). He understands material and concepts and can bring new insights to the work. I am also pleased to see him speaking up in class and showing more confidence sharing his thinking (although his word choice and sullen attitude could be improved<sup>©</sup>).

Holden has been challenged by the tests in this class—this working under time pressure is not the best environment for him. While this is a struggle, the practice in these situations will serve him well. The other area for growth for Holden is in writing that manages to keep a balanced perspective. Again, with practice this will surely come. Holden has great potential and can produce very high quality work. He has solid work habits as well. Putting this all together can help him achieve at the highest level. He has done this at most times this quarter and I trust he will perform at this level consistently in the future.