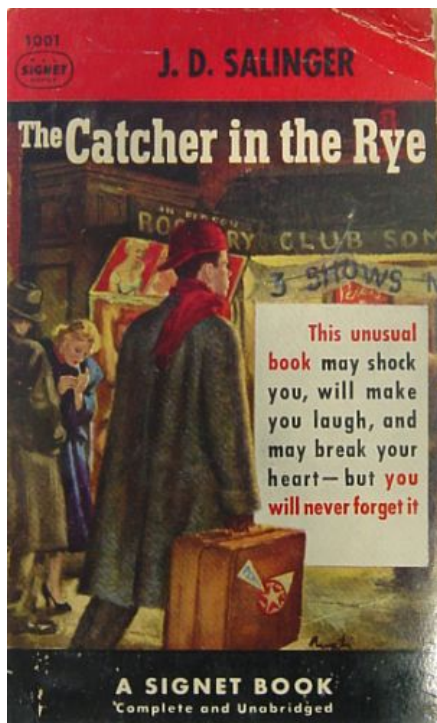


## The Catcher in the Rye Theme Unit Multimedia Essay



The multimedia essay is intended to demonstrate your knowledge of the themes of the unit and your ability to relate the themes and texts to a broader context. **You have two tasks:**

1) Compare and contrast *The Catcher in the Rye* with the graphic novel *Ghost World*, focusing on how the themes of phoniness, conformity, rebellion, and the teenage experience are represented in each. As your *Ghost World* reading notes have asked you to do, consider how the issues Enid and Rebecca struggle with are similar to or different from the struggles Holden deals with. Consider what might account for these differences, including the setting, gender and socioeconomic status of characters, and genre of the texts.

2) Relate the texts to the world of today, looking for similar themes in contemporary culture or your own life. You may find a character or text (song, film, television series, book, etc...) that addresses similar issues as those in *The Catcher in the Rye* and *Ghost World*, or reflect about your own experience with these types of issues.

Because we have dealt with both written and visual texts during this unit, the essay must incorporate multimedia. Video clips, images, music files, your original artwork, or other such media, should be incorporated into the essay in a way that enhances the reader's experience and understanding of the content. For example, you could include an image of a significant panel from *Ghost World* or a film clip that illustrates the themes of the unit. Be sure to address *why* you are incorporating these works into your essay.

While writing your essay, you are encouraged to draw on your reflections and notes from the film *Pleasantville*, your short response essays, and class discussions.

The essays should be roughly 1000 words (about 4 typed, double spaced pages). They should be published on the class website by the time class meets on Day 5.1.

The essay will be graded on a 100 point scale. A maximum of 15 points will be given for spelling, correct use of grammar and style conventions. A maximum of 35 points will be given for creative and meaningful use of multimedia. A maximum of 50 points will be given for content that is thoughtful, well-reasoned, and relevant to the themes of the unit.

