*Thesis*

**A key theme in J.D. Salinger’s book, *Catcher in the Rye* is that *(claim🡪)* loneliness can consume a person if they let it, shown by *(reasoning #1)* Holden not being with his family and being sent off to boarding schools, *(reasoning #2)* when Holden does not feel like talking to Jane when he sees her, *(reasoning #3)* and when he occasionally needs to be surrounded or around people because he hates being alone.**

*Example of Body Paragraph #2 (with a Direct Quote as evidence)*

**(Topic Sentence)** The theme of loneliness consuming a person if they let it is also shown when Holden does not feel like talking to Jane when he sees her. **(Introduction of Quote/Context/Background)** In chapter 3, Holden’s roommate, Stradlater is going on a date with an old friend of Holden’s (Jane). When Jane arrives downstairs at the boys’ dorm, Stradlater tells Holden to go down and say hi. **(Quote/Evidence)** Holden replies, “I oughta go down and say hello to her, at least, but I’m not in the mood right now” (Salinger 4). **(Analysis/Explanation)** Holden tells Stradlater not once, but *twice* that he should just go down and speak to Jane, but Holden chooses not to go down at all. He wants to talk to her and he wants to see her; however, he holds back, thus letting loneliness consume him. In this moment, he has a chance to say hi to a friend when he really wants to, but when he chooses not to, he perpetuates his loneliness. **(Closing Sentence)** This shows how Holden *lets* loneliness consume him rather than doing something about it, making loneliness one of the key themes in the book.

*Example of Body Paragraph #2 (with paraphrasing a specific part as evidence)*

**(Topic Sentence)** The theme of loneliness consuming a person if they let it is shown when Holden does not feel like talking to Jane when he sees her.In chapter 3, Holden’s roommate, Stradlater is going on a date an old friend of Holden’s (Jane). When Jane arrives downstairs at the boys’ dorm, Stradlater tells Holden to go down and say hi. Instead of going down to say hi, Holden chooses not to because he’s not in the mood (Salinger). **(Analysis/Explanation)** Holden tells Stradlater not once, but *twice* that he should just go down and speak to Jane, but Holden chooses not to go down at all. He wants to talk to her and he wants to see her; however, he holds back, thus letting loneliness consume here. In this moment, he has a chance to say hi to a friend when he really wants to, but when he chooses not to, he perpetuates his loneliness. **(Closing Sentence)** This shows how Holden *lets* loneliness consume him rather than doing something about it, making loneliness one of the key themes in the book.