Reading Questions, *A Separate Peace* Chapter 1

1. How long ago was Gene (the narrator) a student at the Devon School?
2. What emotion does he now realize that he frequently experienced during his school years there?
3. What are the two specific things that Gene came back to see?
4. What does Gene refer to as a “crucial fact” about the stairs?
5. What are the two strengths of the Devon School that Gene lists?
6. What happens to Gene’s shoes?
7. *Briefly* explain what Gene means by “this double demotion” (he says it when talking about the trees).
8. What does Gene realize that makes him thankful?
9. Who first thinks up the idea of jumping off the tree?
10. Gene calls the summer of 1942 his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ summer.
11. Who weighs more, Finny or Gene, and by how much?
12. Who are the only two to make the jump?
13. Who does Gene describe as his best friend, at least for a moment?
14. What does Finny call Gene’s hurried walk?
15. As the two are wrestling to make themselves late for dinner, Gene writes, we struggled in some \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for a while.
16. Who is Gene’s roommate?