



The Catcher in the Rye Holden's Authenticity

As you read the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, choose three experiences or interactions that Holden describes that show his authenticity or lack of authenticity. Then, provide details related to these three chosen experiences.

In column 1, briefly describe the experience where Holden shows authenticity or lacks authenticity. Keep your description brief. Be sure to include page number(s) of supporting evidence for future reference.

In the remaining columns, write short answers to the questions.

The Experience	Does Holden show authenticity or a lack of authenticity in his interactions with other characters in this experience? Explain.	Does Holden show authenticity to the reader in this experience? Explain.	How does this experience affect Holden's self-confidence or perspective on life?
Holden lies to Mr. Spencer about going to the gym to get his equipment bag in order to get out of their conversation/visit (pp. 18–19)	Lack of authenticity - Rather than face the reality of his situation or have a real conversation with Mr. Spencer about why he keeps failing out of schools, Holden lies to him about having somewhere to go.	In this situation, Holden actually reveals to the reader how he is a “terrific liar” and often lies. Holden is showing his authentic self to the reader, but not to other characters.	Holden seems to brag about being a “terrific liar” and then seems to explain that his behavior is okay because everyone around him lies. Holden doesn’t trust many people and sees most people as phonies.
