

## ENGLISH ADVANCED

### Change

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Change is generally defined as when something is altered or modified, it can be for better or worse. Every day there is change of some sort, is inevitable. If people ignore change, there can be negative results. This understanding of change has been expressed in several texts by a number of writers. These texts are; the door, Catcher in the Rye and Dead poets society. These texts have helped to show me the inevitability of change that it is as certain that change will happen as it is certain that time will pass.

In catcher in the Rye the idea that resisting change is futile, this idea is shown through Holden's depression and lack of connection with other human beings, through his lack of ability to change. "Life is a game, boy; life is a game one plays by the rules" says Mr Spencer in chapter 2, but Holden refuses to listen. He insists on attempting to preserve his childlike view on life. This leads to many problems, as he struggles to act as a functioning human being, with his immature mindset, yet adult lifestyle.

Unlike Holden Caulfield in catcher in the rye, the Door's writer embraces change in all its forms, encouraging the reader to take chances, and to try new things. The titular door is used as a metaphor for the potential changes that could occur in one's life. Although one cannot see behind the door, there is the potential for there to be literally anything behind it; in the poem, when it says "open the door" it means embrace the possibility of change. The change ideas in "The door" and "The catcher in the Rye" are very similar. Both texts make the point that resistance to change is a negative thing, as change will happen anyway. The attitude "The door" expresses on change, is the change that Holden would have had to have had to be happy and successful.

It is expressed in catcher in the Rye that we need to be proactive about change in our lives. This is displayed by the hard time Holden has when he does not try to make positive change in his life; as a result of his inertia, he ends up depressed and helpless, stuck in a series of events that he has no control over, he also does not grow as a human being; "Listen, lets get one thing straight, I refuse to answer any typical Caulfield questions tonight. When in the hell are you going to grow up?" demands an acquaintance of Holden's, which shows that Holden's lack of ability to change is not only affecting him, but the people around him.

In Dead Poet's Society the idea is expressed that we need to approach change with caution, in catcher in the rye, this is shown in that Holden tries to go straight from being a child with immature views, to an adult, as opposed to most people, who make this change gradually. In "Dead Poets" some of the boys try to change things at their school too fast (attempting to get girls sent to the school) with disastrous results. The negative results of changing too fast are best shown in scene 16, when Neil commits suicide.

In conclusion, thanks to these texts, I now have a newfound understanding of what change is, and about the unavoidable nature of change, and, although we should be prepared to accept change, we should still have a cautious and measured to change, as change can have negative and positive results. These change ideas can be expressed equally well in many different text forms, whether movie, book, or poem.