

## One Paragraph Summary

Name: Benny B.

Date: Feb. 26

<b>EXCEEDS EXPECTATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proper paragraph format, heading, very neat and legible.</li> <li>▪ Includes almost all key main elements and very few if any minor details.</li> <li>▪ Duplicates content of original clearly and accurately in less than 250 words.</li> <li>▪ Copies order of original.</li> <li>▪ Uses some transitions that clearly and correctly connect ideas.</li> <li>▪ Very easy to read and understand.</li> <li>▪ Used pronouns correctly and clearly.</li> <li>▪ Makes no judgments about original and reflect tone of original.</li> <li>▪ All sentences correct, clear, uses some variety of sentence beginnings.</li> <li>▪ 1-2 minor errors of mechanics, sentence structure, word choice.</li> </ul>
<b>MEETS EXPECTATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proper paragraph format, headings, neat. ✓</li> <li>▪ Includes most key main elements and/or few minor details. ✓</li> <li>▪ Duplicates content, almost always clearly, accurately in less than 250 words. ✓</li> <li>▪ Copies order of original. ✓</li> <li>▪ Easy to read and understand. ✓</li> <li>▪ Most pronouns used correctly, clearly. ✓</li> <li>▪ Makes no judgments about original. ✓</li> <li>▪ Most sentences correct, clear, uses some variety of sentence beginnings. ✓</li> <li>▪ 3-4 errors mechanics, sentence structure, word choice. ✓</li> </ul>
<b>WITH ASSISTANCE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mostly proper paragraph format, heading, margins, legible.</li> <li>▪ Includes at least half of key main elements and/or several minor details.</li> <li>▪ Duplicates content fairly clearly and accurately in less than 250 words.</li> <li>▪ Mostly copies order of original.</li> <li>▪ Somewhat difficult to read and understand. ✓</li> <li>▪ Several pronouns used incorrectly and/or unclearly.</li> <li>▪ Makes judgment about original. ✓</li> <li>▪ Most sentences incorrect and unclear, no variety of sentence beginnings.</li> <li>▪ 5-6 errors of mechanics, sentence structure and word choice.</li> </ul>
<b>DOES NOT MEET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improper paragraph format, heading, margins, illegible.</li> <li>▪ Includes less than half the key main elements and/or many minor details.</li> <li>▪ Duplicates content unclearly, inaccurately and/or more than 250 words.</li> <li>▪ Does not copy order of original.</li> <li>▪ Difficult to read and understand.</li> <li>▪ Most pronouns are used incorrectly, unclearly.</li> <li>▪ Makes judgments about original.</li> <li>▪ Sentences incorrect, unclear.</li> <li>▪ More than 6 errors of mechanics, sentence structure and word choice.</li> </ul>

(ME) Well written  
 (FINE) Benny!



Benny Berkenkotter, Core D

In the book **The Giver**, by Lois Lowry, the importance of individuality is explained in great detail especially during the life of Jonas when he begins his training as the Receiver. In the community of Jonas everyone has their job such as Jonas' father being a nurturer. And each job is passed down and chosen by the same group of people each year during the Ceremony of Twelve. Jonas starts understanding the importance of individuality when he gets picked or chosen for the job of Receiver during the Ceremony of Twelve. He then is given memories that everyone does not have such as that memory of war or snow. And he starts to think differently which then impacts how he reacts to games and other acts. Such as the game of guns with Asher and the little kids. He sees the his world differently and acts differently especially as he learns what "Release" truly is. And using his individuality or memories he saves Gabriel from release. In book, this idea of "sameness" is a concept that is brought up constantly. The community has rules that everyone must abide and with this everyone is the same, there is no individuality or difference. This deems the ideas that the community uses such as "release", wrong to Jonas.

In the book **The House of Scorpion**, by Nancy Farmer, the problem of individuality is shown through the clone named Matt who wants to be himself. Matt is a clone of the drug lord El Patron who is also the Leader of the country Opium. In this world, everyone considers clones such as Matt not human but Matt is different, unlike other clones his brain has not tampered with at birth. So this gives Matt a sense of individuality meaning that he is not just any other regular clone. In this community, clones are considered scum or not human. But Matt is considered human and more than a clone by other such as Celia and Maria. He begins to be less of El Patron who is a selfish, and bossy character, and more of a moral, and polite type of person. To him, being himself or being an individual is what is keeping him from being El Patron which is what he wants. In this book the idea of individuality is shown in great detail with Matt's wanting of being an individual. He does not want to be what El Patron wants or what he was designed for. In fact, Matt wants to be the complete opposite of El Patron, not an evil drug lord and not a God to his people. This comes with a cost, however, he must choose to either leave his loved ones such as Celia or he could stay and lose his heart to El Patron.

In our world today, the idea of individuality is retained by everyone unlike in the world of these two dystopian novels. Everyone does not want to be a clone, such as Matt, or a figure of what someone else once, such as Jonas. Although, the benefits of not having an individuality like a much organized community such as in **The Giver**, by Lois Lowry, and getting what you want such as El Patron wanting his clones' organs in **The House of Scorpion**, by Nancy Farmer, may seem nice. These benefits have underlying costs that ruin this perfect society that is wanted such as people being almost like mindless robots or clones for a perfect society. There is no difference, there is no creativity, and there is no solution to any new problems because no one has ideas for themselves. A great example of this is, is during the time of slavery. The slaves during that time were not considered as individuals. They did not have



opinion and their lives were not theirs to live. They lived and worked according to their masters. Similar to Matt in **The House of Scorpion**, he was not allowed to live a normal life that everyone had. El Patron made almost like a timeline of Matt's life before he could live it. Matt had to learn subjects such as math and music in great detail to be just like El Patron as he grew older. And in **The Giver**, Jonas must abide by the rules of the community otherwise he will be released. That is, until he begins his training as the Receiver and learns the importance of being different. Similar to the time of slavery, the slaves were basically pawns for a perfect society such as Jonas and Matt. They were not able to break the rules otherwise they would be punished or "released". They were basically forced to live by demand of a leader in **The House of Scorpion** it was El Patron, in **The Giver** it was the Elders, and in the real world back then it was the white people. This begs the question "Is individuality a benefit or a barrier that holds our society back from perfection?"

