

### Chapter 3 Identifying Facts

1. How do Gene and Finny open every meeting of their SSS of the SS? How does Gene feel about this?
2. Why does Finny invent "blitzball"?
3. After Finny breaks a swimming record, what does he make Gene promise?
4. Explain why Gene is shocked about Finny's decision. What does it make him feel about Finny?
5. What "courageous" thing does Finny admit to Gene before they go to sleep on the ocean? What is Gene's response? Why?

### Interpreting Meanings

6. Gene has conflicting emotions about Finny having "practically saved his life" because it was Finny's fault he had "practically lost" it. Yet Gene continues to go to the nightly meetings and jump from the tree without protest. Why do you think he does this?
7. Later in the chapter, Gene states that Finny could "shine" at many things besides "blitzball," such as getting along with everyone. Gene states that he is glad of that because Finny is his roommate and best friend. Is Gene really glad? What do you think he might really be feeling? Recall Gene's earlier statement about it being all right to envy one's best friend a little. Is Gene envying Finny more and more?
8. After Finny states that Gene is his "best pal," Gene isn't able to return the compliment. He states that he perhaps was "stopped by that level of feeling, deeper than thought, which contains the truth." What "truth" do you think Gene is feeling? Why?

**Chapter 4**  
**Identifying Facts**

1. What does Finny accuse Gene of striving for? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does Gene realize his being head of the class would mean?
3. When Finny says he would kill himself "out of jealous envy," what is Gene's reaction?
4. What does Gene determine that he and Finny are even in? Why?
5. What second realization does Gene have about Finny?
6. Describe the effect Gene's second realization has on his efforts as a student.
7. Why does Gene continue to attend the meetings of the Suicide Society?
8. Before they reach the tree, what does Gene realize about the rivalry between him and Finny? How does he feel about this?
9. Describe what Gene does while he and Finny are on the limb together?
10. How is Gene's jump from the limb different from all his others?