**The Catcher in the Rye: Themes and Motifs**

Themes are the universal and fundamental ideas the author explores in a piece of literature; motifs are recurring elements that augment and develop the themes. As you become aware of themes and motifs, complete the chart. An example of a theme in Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye* is isolation; Holden is isolated from the real ‘world’ and his privileged school mates.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Theme/Motif** | **Chapters** | **Brief Explanation** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |