

Chapters Seven—Nine

Standards Focus: Characterization & Foils

In literature, two characters who contrast one another to such a degree that, when paired, exaggerate the qualities of the other, are called **foils**. They are mirror images of each other. In *The Catcher in the Rye*, Holden parallels Ackley and Stradlater and they both have a hand in ushering Holden out of Pencey early.

Directions: Fill in the chart in order to compare the attributes of Ackley and Stradlater and their influence on Holden. One row has been done for you.

Ackley		Stradlater
	Physical Appearance	
	Age/Grade in School	
Slob - smells bad, does not brush teeth, cuts nails over rug, picks nails, pops pimples	Personal Hygiene	“secret slob” - looks good and well groomed but toiletries are a mess and razor is filthy
	Personal Background & Opinion of One Another	
	Sexual Experience	
	Social Experience	
	Personality	
	Relationship with Holden	
	Influence over Holden’s Departure	