



The Search For Identity: Compare and Contrast

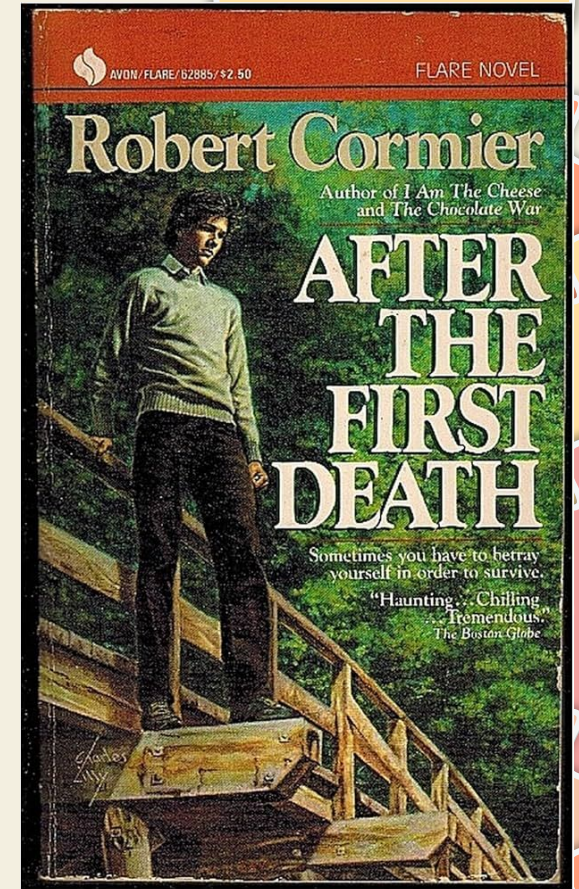
Sarai Angel

Rational

Identity is most complicated in Adolescence

"Disconnections remind us that, for students, literature isn't always a mirror, window, or door; sometimes literature is a reminder that they are locked out of the house entirely" (Pytash and Bartholomew).

"But I hadn't thought that much about a story's power to fulfill an unrecognized emotional need" (Monseau)




Leading up to a class discussion and individual essay



Complete work
in groups

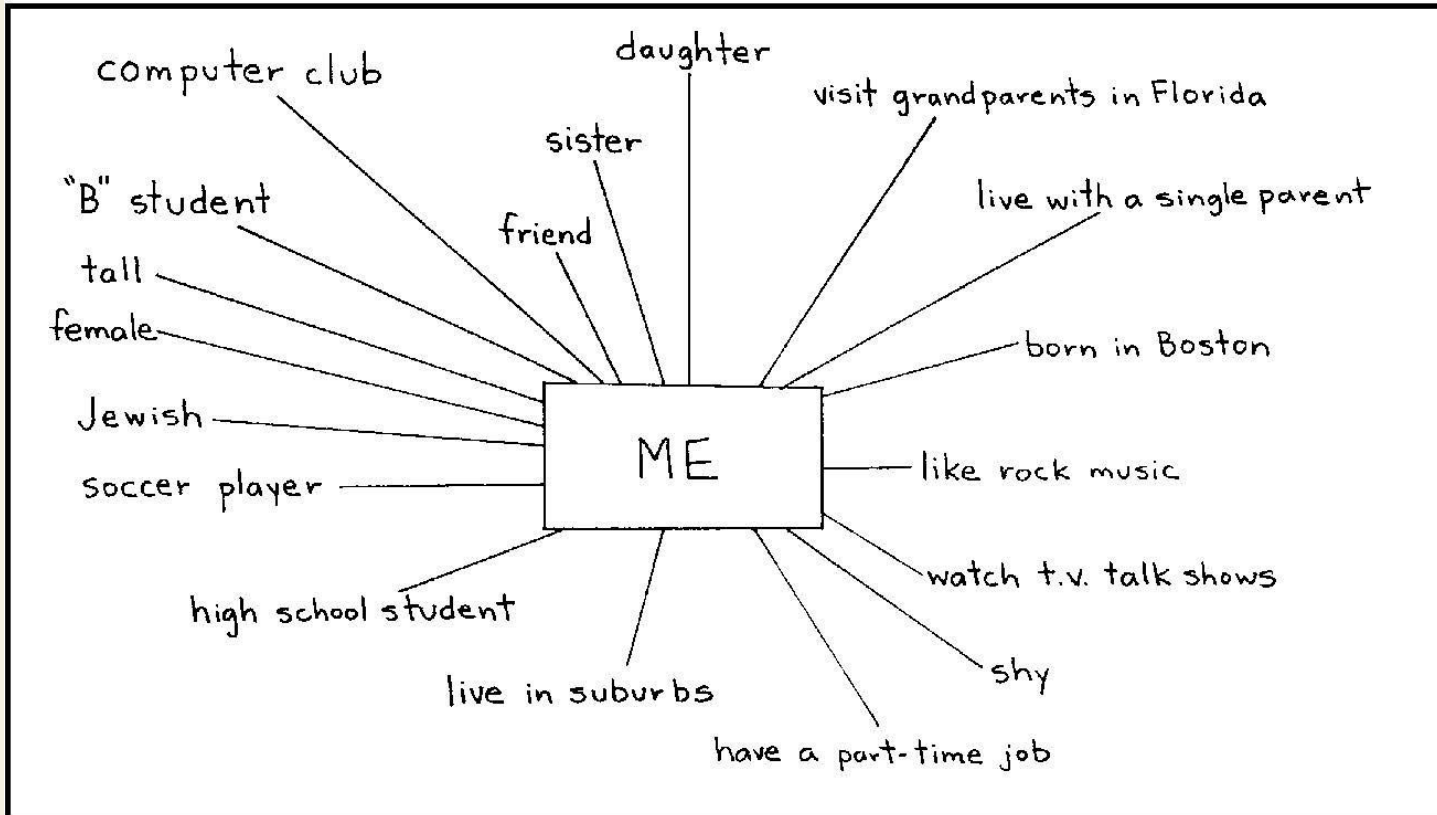


Complete
reflections

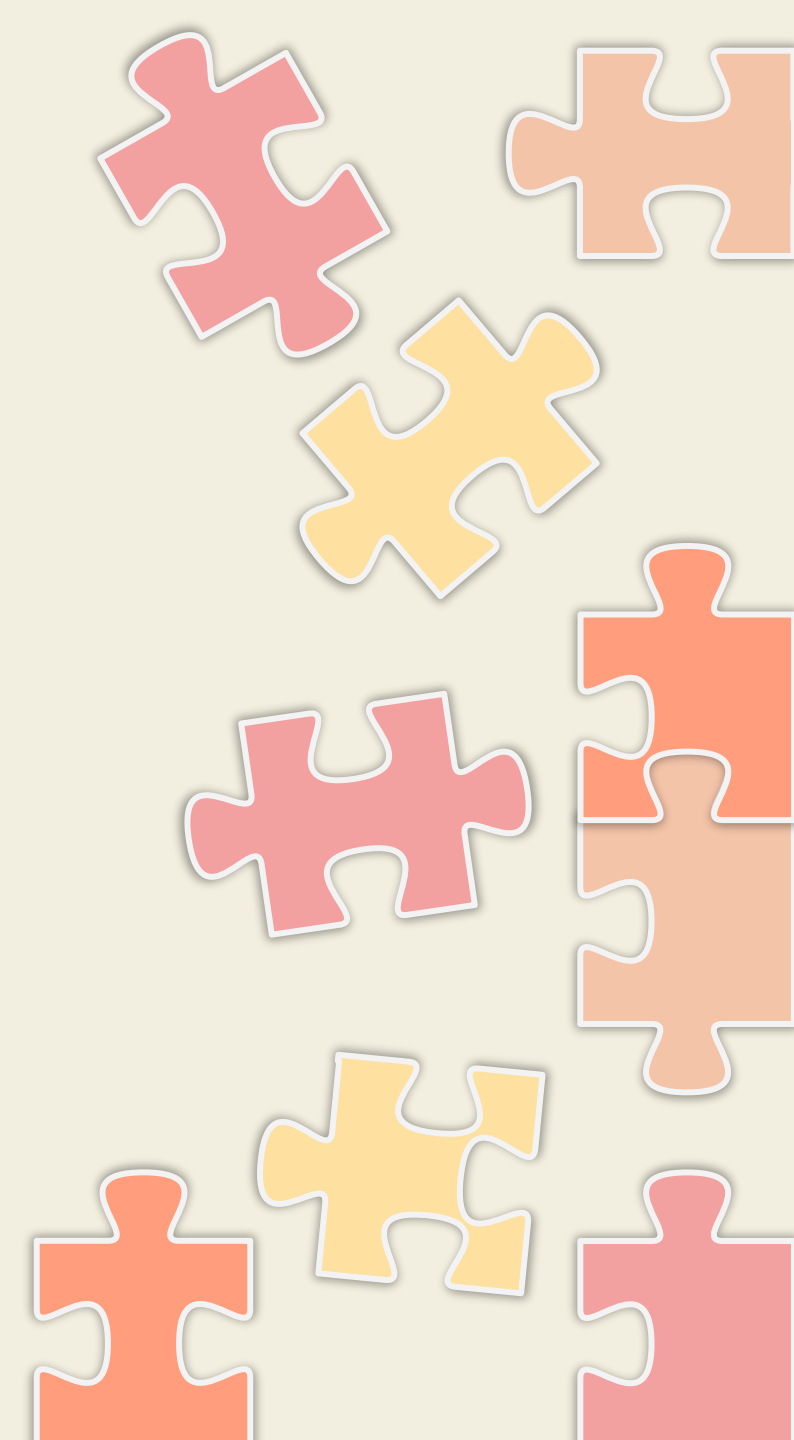


Keep track of
important
quotes and
quotes that
speak to them

Into The Text



“Identity Charts.” Facing History & Ourselves

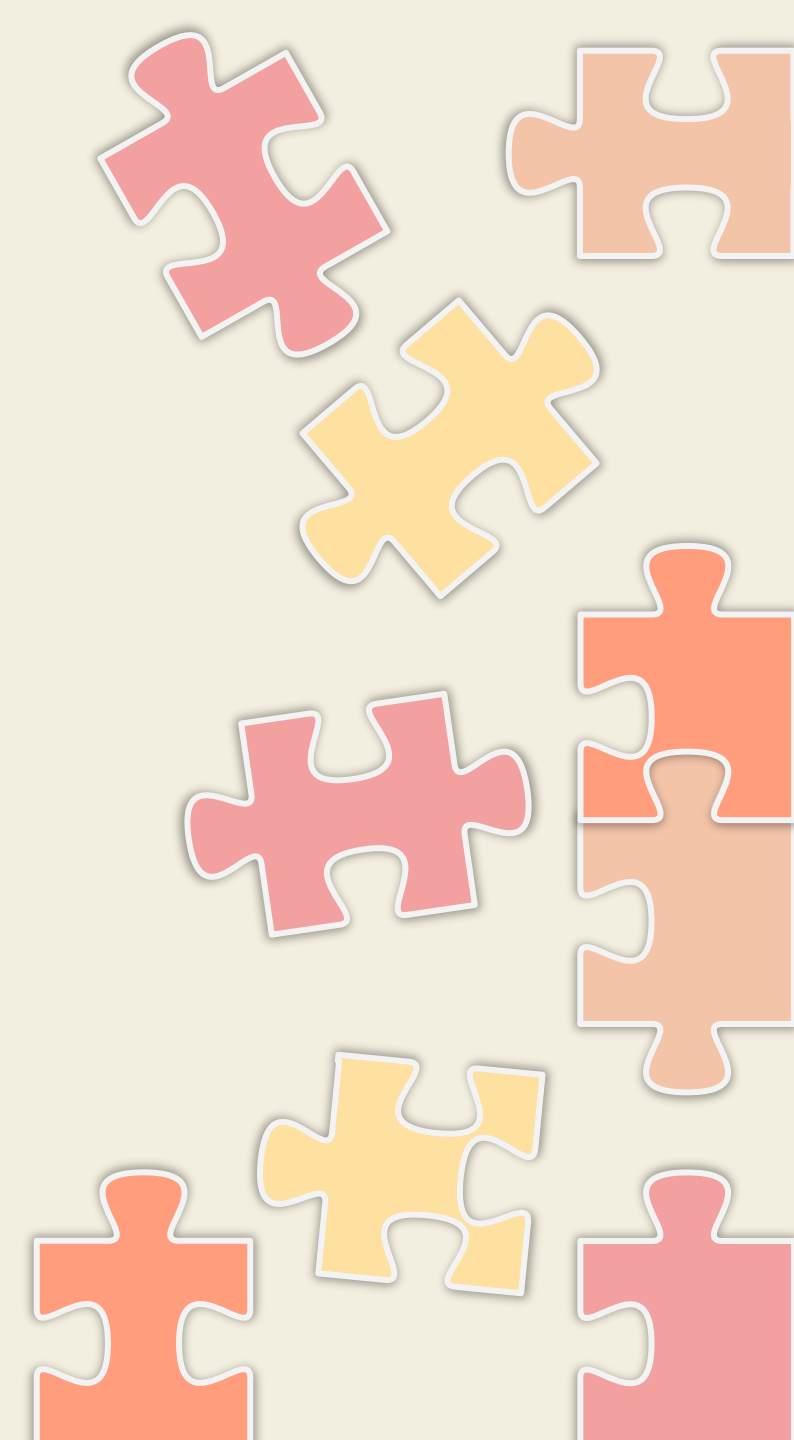


Into The text

In groups:

Students will note the characters: Role/importance, Motivation, Actions, Traits, Relationships, and Development.

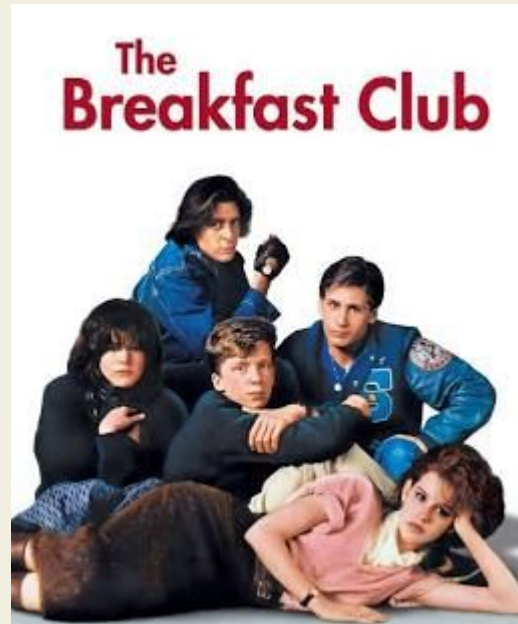
In different groups, they will summarize the novel's events and identify key themes, such as Patriotism, Sacrifice, Betrayal, Identity, and Courage.



Supplemental material

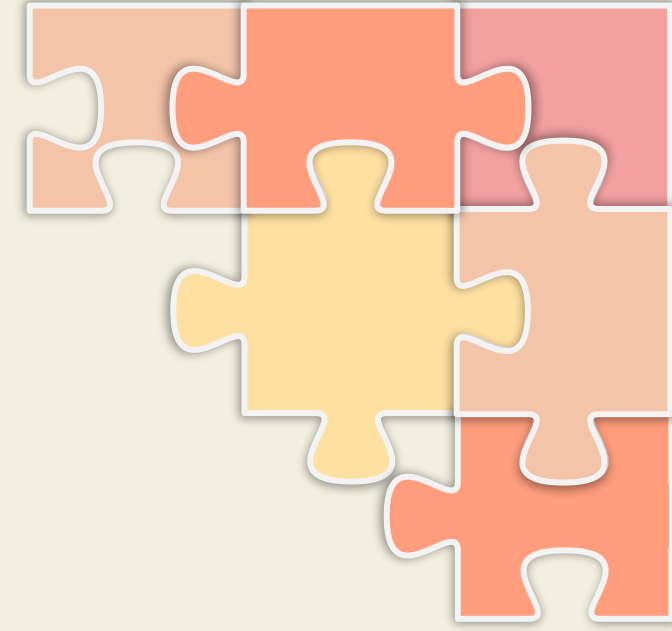
Film

The film connects to the unit as the teens battle who they are, what people think they are, and what they want to be. Students will write about their initial perceptions of the teens and, at the end of the film, write about how they now view them.



Poetry

Leaving behind nights of
terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's
wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my
ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the
hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.



Through the text

Discussion

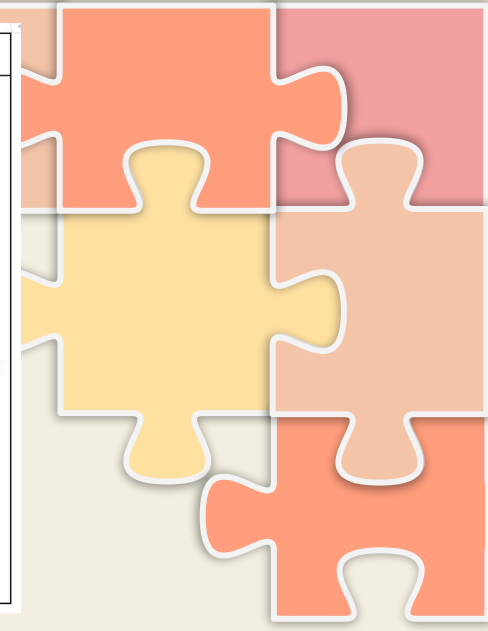
- Students at home will prepare one prompt per work to use in the discussion.
- Will also write a 1-page reflection on any work detailing how any two characters are similar and different;
 - EX: Ben from *After The First Death* and Andrew from *The Breakfast Club* both are trying to live up to their fathers' expectations; however, Ben is pressured by himself to be a hero, while Andrew is under pressure from himself to impress his peers.

Voicing	Honoring	Inquiring
<p><i>Connections</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I personally connected to... because...• I was reminded of... <p><i>Disconnections</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When I read ___ I thought about how this is different from my own experience in the following ways...• I felt a disconnection when... It left me feeling...• When I read ___ I felt that my experience as ___ was not represented. This made me think about...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank you for sharing your perspective. It helped me think about...• I didn't experience the same thing when I read that section, but I can see where you are coming from.• I'm glad you said that because...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did you have any connections or disconnections while you read?• In what ways does this text reflect your experience? In what ways does it diverge?• Whose experience is this text most representative of? Why do you think that is? What are the implications of this?• How would the story change if you rewrote it from the perspective of ___?

Creating Space for a Spectrum of Connections by
Kristine E. Pytash and Monica Bartholomew

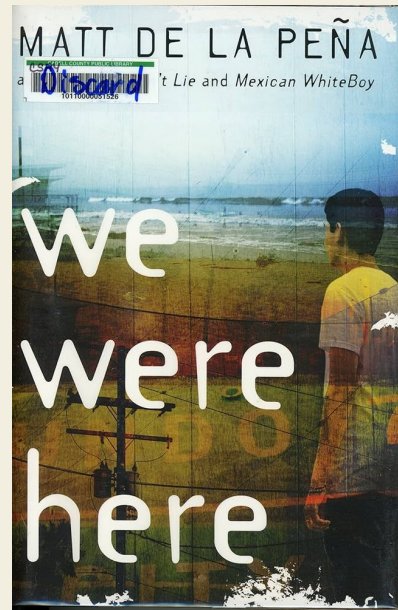
Essay

- Kate, Ben, and Miro are all put into impossible positions; given their circumstances, which character do you believe acts the most in line with their identity? Are any of them truly in control of their actions, or are they victims of circumstance?
- Compare and Contrast two characters from *After The First Death*. How do their motivations align, and how do they differ?

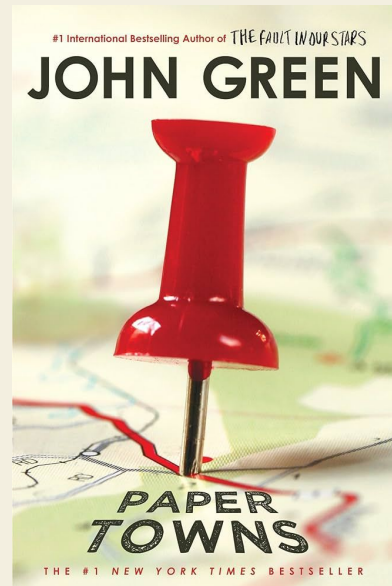


Beyond the text

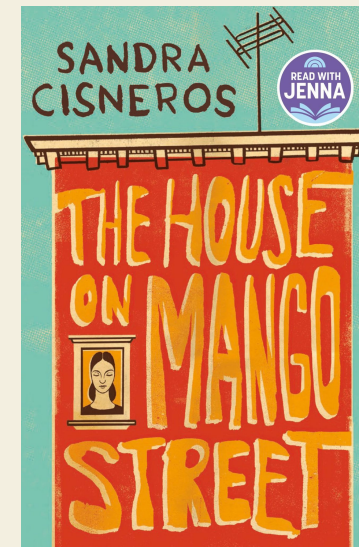
We Were Here by
Matt de La Peña



Paper Towns by
John Green



The House on
Mango Street by
Sandra Cisneros.



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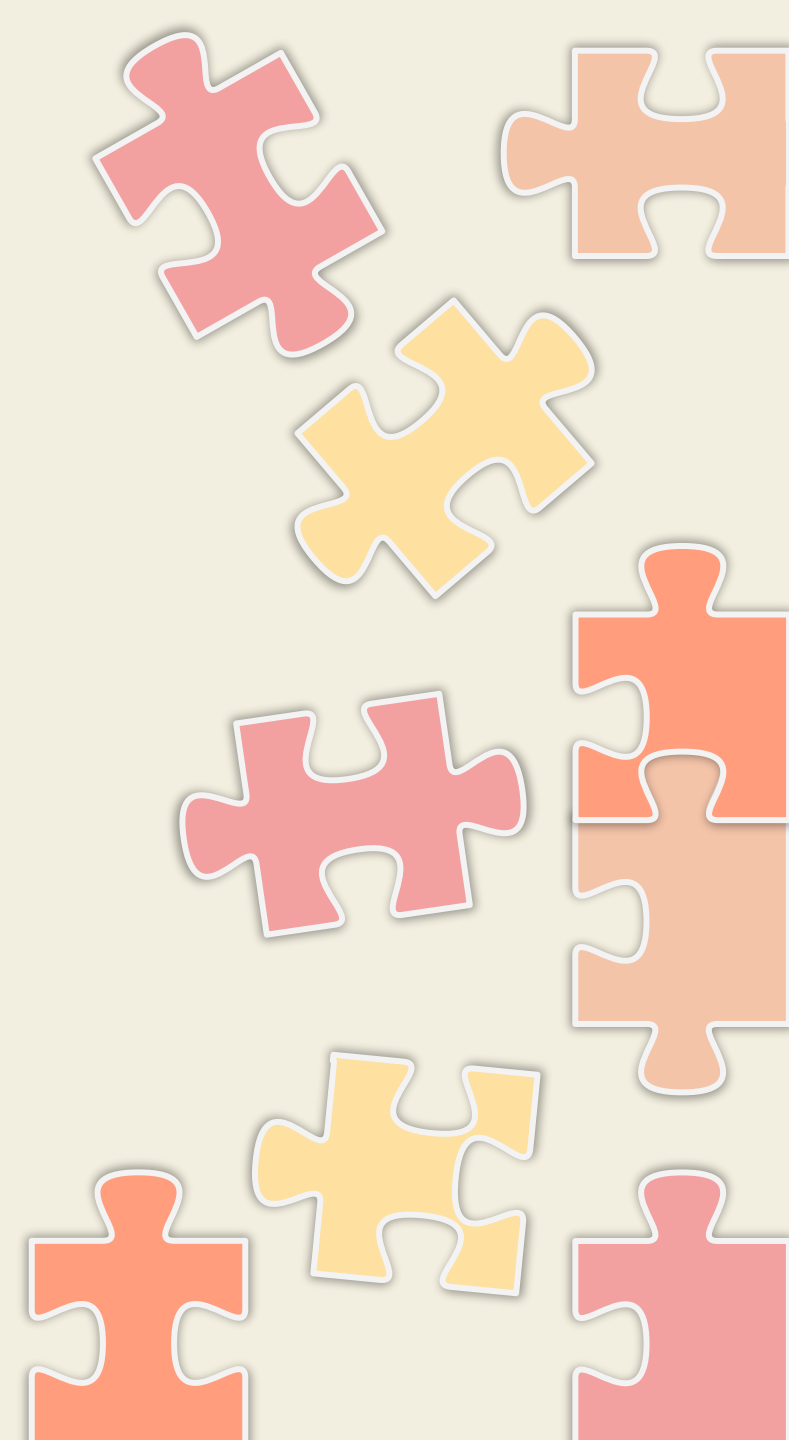
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