

## The Outsiders Guided Reading Questions - Summer Reading - ELA 8

Answer the following questions for each chapter of S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*. Write each answer in complete sentences. You will need to type these answers in a Google or Word document and submit them during the first two weeks of school.

\*Points will be deducted for grammar.

\*This is worth a minor grade (100 points).

\*Don't forget your in-text citations (Hinton pg. #).

**\*Each question is worth 6 points, except for No. 16, which is worth 10 points.**

### Chapter 1

1. Explain why Ponyboy tells us repeatedly, "I don't use my head." What does this tell you about him? What possible themes does this suggest?
2. Explain how having Ponyboy as the narrator affects the story. Cite evidence word-for-word from the text to support your answer.

### Chapter 2

3. Pick two of the following characters. What word would you use to describe them? Cite a piece of evidence word-for-word from the text. Explain how your evidence supports the word you chose.
  - a. Dally Winston
  - b. Darry
  - c. Sodapop
  - d. Johnny
  - e. Two-Bit
  - f. Steve Mathews
  - g. Cherry Valance

### Chapter 3

4. What can you infer when Darry screams, "Ponyboy, I didn't mean to!"

### Chapter 4

5. Pick two of the topics listed. Explain how they involve characters and events from Ch. 4:
- a. The blue Mustang
  - b. Bob's rings
  - c. fountain
  - d. 50 dollars
  - e. Jay Mountain
  - f. Dally's instructions
6. When Johnny is at Buck Merrill's door, the author chooses the words, "Buck glared down at us" and "Dally! Johnny gulped." By choosing the verbs **glared** and **gulped**, what feeling does the author try to get across in this event? What connotation do these words have?

#### Chapter 5

7. Pick two of the topics listed. Explain how each topic listed involves characters and events from Ch. 5:
- a. Gone With the Wind
  - b. peroxide
  - c. "Nothing Gold Can Stay"
  - d. long, low whistle
  - e. Texas
  - f. Dairy Queen

#### Chapter 6

8. Pick two of the topics listed. Explain how each topic involves characters and events from Chapter 6:
- a. Cherry's help
  - b. School picnic
  - c. Dally's jacket
  - d. Broken back

#### Chapter 7 and 8

9. Pick two of the topics listed. Explain how each topic involves characters and events from Ch. 7:
- a. Reporters
  - b. Chocolate cake
  - c. Manslaughter

- d. Boy's home
- 10. Locate an important quotation related to **Johnny's mother**. Cite it word-for-word from the text, and then explain why it's important.

#### Chapter 9

- 11. What reason does each character give for fighting?
  - a. Soda
  - b. Darry
  - c. Pony
  - d. Two-Bit
- 12. An important topic developing in the novel is loyalty. Describe **two characters' actions** that involve this topic.

#### Chapter 10

- 13. List three main events from chapter 10.

#### Chapter 11

- 14. After the episode involving Dally, Darry tells Pony he will have to go to court and talk to the police. Pony asks, "Do you think they'll split us up? Put me in a home or something?" Explain how the theme topic of "the importance of family" is demonstrated at this point in the novel.

#### Chapter 12

- 15. "Stay gold, Ponyboy. Stay gold."
  - Who is the speaker?
  - What was going on at the time?
  - Why are these words of special importance to the story?

#### Overall Question

What is the main theme of the novel? Write a paragraph explaining your answer. Cite two pieces of evidence from the text to support your answer. Explain each piece of evidence.