

The Outsiders Study Questions

Chapter 1

1. From what building is Ponyboy coming out when the book opens? Describe Ponyboy.
2. Name both of Pony's brothers. What are their ages, and how old is Pony? How are his two brothers different according to Pony? Which one is his favorite?
3. What are the two gangs and to which gang does Pony belong? How does one identify a "Soc" or a "Greaser"?
4. What happened to Pony's parents? Who raises him now?
5. Who trails Pony home? What do they try to do to him? Who saves him? Describe this person.
6. Describe the following gang members: Soda, Steve Randle, Two-Bit Matthews, Dally, Johnny.
7. Why does Pony think Darry does not like him? Who always takes up for Pony?
8. What did Darry have to give up in order to provide for the boys? Soda reminds Pony that Darry loves him. Does Pony believe it?

Chapter 2

1. What is the Dingo? How do Pony, Johnny, and Dally get into the Nightly Double?
2. What does Dally start doing with the two Soc girls inform of them? What are their names?
3. What does Cherry do when Dally hands her a Coke?
4. Why does Pony say one must stand up for one's buddies in a gang? Where are the girls' boyfriends?
5. Who joins them at the drive in? Who is looking for Dally? Why?
6. What happened to Johnny 4 months ago? How many Socs were there and what kind of car were they in? What does Johnny vow will never happen again? What does he carry now?
7. What insight does Cherry share with Pony about the Socs? What does she mean when she says "things are rough all over"? Does Pony believe her?

Chapter 3

1. What was the name of Soda's horse, and what happened to him? What was Soda's reaction?
2. What does Pony realize about the sunset that ties him and Cherry together? What does it say about two individuals who seem so different?
3. As the Greasers are walking the girls home, who pulls up beside them? What does Pony realize about the black-haired Soc?

4. What kind of place does Johnny wish he lived in? What do Pony and Johnny realize when they wake up?
5. How does Darry react when Pony comes in late? What does Pony do in response?
6. What does Johnny mean when he says he likes it better "when the old man's hittin' me"? Is Pony going to go home? Where do the boys decide to go first?

Chapter 4

9. Who surrounds Pony and Johnny in the park?
10. What does Bob do to Pony before he blacks out? How is Pony saved?
11. Why is Johnny not nervous anymore?
12. Where do Pony and Johnny find Dally?
13. What does Dally provide them with?
14. How do Pony and Johnny get to Windrixville?
15. What excuse do Pony and Johnny use when asking directions to Jay Mountain? Where on Jay Mountain do they hide?

Chapter 5

8. Where is Johnny when Pony wakes up the next morning? Name some of the items he bought.
9. What do Pony and Johnny have to do to their hair?
10. How do Pony and Johnny kill time over the next four or five days? What impressed Johnny about the book they are reading? How was Dally "gallant" according to Johnny?
11. What is the poem Pony quotes? What is the point of the poem?
12. When Dally shows up, he gives Pony a letter. Who is it from? Where do the police think Pony and Johnny are?
13. What does Dally said is going to happen tomorrow night?
14. What are the terms of this event? Who is the spy for the Greasers that assures them the terms will be kept?

Chapter 6

1. Why is Cherry helping the Greasers? What is she willing to testify in court about Bob's killing?
2. What does Johnny decide he is going to do? Why?
3. Have Johnny's parents asked about him while he was gone?

4. Why does Dally not want Johnny to spend time in jail?
5. What is happening to the church as they pull up? Who else is there?
6. What does Pony notice about Johnny as they run into the church to rescue the children?
7. Who is in the ambulance with Pony when he wakes up? What saves him from being burned badly?
8. What injuries do Dally and Johnny have?
9. What does Pony realize about Darry when he sees him? What has been Darry's silent fear all along?

Chapter 7

1. Soda entertains the reporters and policeman as they question the boys at the hospital. Of what animal does Soda remind Pony and why?
2. Is Johnny expected to live? How does Pony react?
3. What observation does Pony make about people who are asleep?
4. Why do the Curtis brothers never keep the front door locked at night?
5. According to the newspaper article titled "Juvenile Delinquents Turn Heroes," who else testifies besides Cherry that the Socs were in the wrong?
6. What sport do we learn that Pony is quite good at playing?
7. What possibility for Soda and Pony does the article mention?
8. Why does the fact that Pony had a nightmare the previous night worry Darry?
9. Why does Soda's girlfriend Sandy have to go live with her grandparents in Florida?
10. Who tails Pony and Two-Bit to the Tasty Freeze? Who talks with Pony alone?
11. What does he tell Pony that Bob wanted from his parents or from anyone –why?
12. Why is this person not going to the rumble?
13. What does Pony realize about this person and about Socs in general?

Chapter 8

14. What two things does Johnny want Pony and Two-Bit to get for him?
15. What does he mean when he says "Sixteen years ain't long enough" (107)?
16. What does Johnny say when his mother comes to see him? How does she respond when she sees Two-Bit and Pony in the hallway?
17. How does Pony feel about Dally now? How did he feel about Dally at the beginning of the novel?

18. Why does Two-Bit say that Darry would have been a Soc if it hadn't been for them?
19. What does Cherry tell them about the rumble?
20. Why does she refuse to go see Johnny? What made Bob special, according to Cherry? How does Pony react to her? What comments cause them to part as friends?

Chapter 9

21. How many aspirins does Pony have to take to keep in fighting shape?
22. Who is Curly Shepard and why can't he come to the rumble?
23. Why do each of the guys like to fight according to Pony's survey? Why does Pony fight?
24. Of what animal does Tim Shepard remind Pony?
25. Why does Pony say that Darry is better than anyone else here?
26. Who is going to start the rumble and why?
27. Why were most of the Greasers worried about the "no weapons" rule?
28. Who stands up to take Darry on? Why does this stun Pony and Soda?
29. Who wins the rumble?
30. Where does Dally take Pony after the rumble?
31. According to Dally, why did Johnny get hurt?
32. What does Johnny tell Pony before he dies? What does this mean?

Chapter 10

1. Of what delusion does Pony convince himself at first?
2. Why can't Dally take the fact that Johnny is dead, according to Pony?
3. When Darry answers the phone, what do they learn about Dally? Where do they meet him?
4. What happens to Dally when he pulls out the unloaded gun before the police?
5. What does Pony realize Dally wanted all along?
6. How did Dally die, according to Pony?
7. What did Johnny leave for Pony before he died?
8. Did Pony ask for Darry while he was sick and delirious?

Chapter 11

9. Whose picture does Pony see in one of Soda's yearbooks? How does Pony see this person now?
10. Who comes to see Pony at home? Is he going to tell the truth at the hearing?
11. Pony begins saying he killed Bob, not Johnny. Why do you think he was so mixed up?
12. What does Darry call Pony at the end of the chapter? What does this show about their relationship?

Chapter 12

13. Why does the judge not ask Pony about Bob's death?
14. What does Pony's English teacher offer to let him do to be able to pass the class with a "C"?
15. How does Pony react to the Socs who approach him? Why does this bother Two-Bit?
16. Who does Pony begin reacting like in his thoughts?
17. When Pony yells back at Darry, what does Darry tell Pony about living and losing someone you love?
18. Why had Soda been so upset? What does Darry tell Pony about Soda's connection to Sandy?
19. What do Darry and Pony realize about Soda in regard to their fighting? What do they promise Soda?
20. Why does Pony pretend Johnny is still alive?
21. What does he find in Johnny's copy of *Gone with the Wind*? What does Johnny ask Pony to tell Dally?
22. What does Pony decided to write his composition about? How does it begin? Why is this important?

The Outsiders
Quotes

- * "I think I like it better when the old man's hittin' me."
- * "Rat race is a perfect name for it. We're always going and going and going, and never asking where."
- * "I can't stand fights..... I can't stand them....."
- "There sure is a lot of blood in people."
- "He's hard as a rock and about as human.... He thinks I'm a pain in the neck."
- "If they win, things go on as usual. If we do, they stay outa our territory but good."
- "Why do people sell liquor to boys? Why? I know there's a law against it, but kids get it anyway."
- "To have somebody lay down the law, set the limits, give him something solid to stand on. That's what we all want, really."
- "Things were rough all over, but it was better that way. That way you could tell the other guy was human too."
- "...you don't just stop living because you lose someone; I thought you knew that by now. You don't quit!"

*Frame story:

"Nothing Gold Can Stay":

*Themes:

* _____ and _____: Much of the action is driven by _____
The Greasers come from the _____,
while the Socials come from the _____.
These two groups are _____ with _____
_____ is important to both gangs (_____,
_____, and _____).

* _____: This is a point of _____,
and _____ for Ponyboy. _____ is the _____
that holds his gang together. It cuts across all the _____.
They're loyal to each other because they _____, have
_____, and have _____.
This novel explores what happens when _____ and his _____
begin to lose this loyalty for each other, under the _____.

* _____: Pony spends a lot of time looking at _____ as well as _____. Dallas Winston is " _____ " and " _____." Johnny is a _____, _____, _____ kid. By just looking at their face, Ponyboy is unable to see that Johnny is also _____, and Dallas is full of _____ for Johnny. Ponyboy also misreads his brothers.

* _____: *The Outsiders* is a **Bildungsroman**, a _____ term that translates to " _____." This refers to the main character's _____ and _____ _____. Ponyboy and his brothers definitely fit this. They have less _____ due to _____ and _____ factors. This ultimately turns around for Ponyboy when his teacher, _____, gives him a _____ which helps him develop as a person and turns into the book we have read.

The Outsiders

Name _____

Class _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY SHEET 2 — Chapter Review

A. Select important names, places, and events from the list that follows in answer to each question below. Capitalize all proper nouns. You may use some answers more than once.

blue Mustang

Dingo

Marcia

Socs

Bob

DX

park

Tasty Freeze

Cherry

Florida

Paul

Texas

Dally

grocery store

Ponyboy

Tim

Darry

Jerry

Randy

Two-Bit

David

Johnny

Sandy

West Side

Chapter 1

1. _____ is angry that his younger brother would walk alone from the movie; Steve suggests that _____ carry a knife.

Chapter 2

2. Before entering the _____, a greaser hangout, _____, an experienced hoodlum from New York's _____, steals two packs of cigarettes from the drugstore.

Chapter 3

3. The greasers escort Cherry and _____ to _____'s car. The Socs drive up in a _____.

Chapter 4

4. At the _____, _____ holds Ponyboy's head under water until Johnny rescues him by stabbing _____.

Chapter 5

5. _____ surprises the runaways at the old church with news that the police think they have escaped to _____.

Chapter 6

6. On the way to the hospital, _____ reassures Ponyboy that he is a hero, but tells him that _____ has suffered serious injury.

Chapter 7

7. Ponyboy learns that Soda is sad because _____ went to live with her grandmother in _____.

Chapter 8

8. _____, the greasers' spy, reports that the _____ want no weapons at the rumble.

Chapter 9

9. _____'s gang and the boys from Brumly back up the Curtis boys. Darry leads off the fight by challenging _____.

Chapter 10

10. _____ robs a _____, then dies from police gunfire.

Chapter 11

11. Darry asks _____ to leave _____'s bedside after he grows hysterical.

Chapter 12

12. After the hearing, _____ learns to accept his friends' deaths.

B. Select eight terms from this review. Write a paragraph in which you use the words.

C. Make a character web delineating Ponyboy's relationship with others in the story.

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COMPREHENSION TEST 1

A. Identification (20 points)

Name the character who is described below. Select answers from the following list.

Bob	Dally	Johnny	Sandy
Buck	Darry	Ponyboy	Soda
Cherry	Jerry	Randy	Two-Bit

1. _____ demands that Cherry not be seen with greasers.
2. _____ likes shoplifting and carrying a switchblade.
3. _____ was arrested at age ten in New York.
4. _____ serves as a spy for the greasers.
5. _____ might be put in a boys' home along with Ponyboy.
6. _____ chooses not to come to the rumble.
7. _____ goes with Ponyboy in the ambulance.
8. _____ weeps over Ponyboy's return from Windrixville.
9. _____ jilts Soda.
10. _____ has no one at home to miss him.

B. True/False (20 points)

Mark the following statements either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

1. ____ Soda leaves home because he can't stand to hear Pony and Darry fight.
2. ____ Ponyboy finishes reading *Gone with the Wind* while he's in the hospital.
3. ____ After the rumble, Curly Shepard is sent to reform school.
4. ____ Dally telephones the Curtis house to say he has robbed a grocery store.

continued

*She wrote the book as S.E. Hinton because she felt that _____

_____ Her inspiration for the novel was the _____ at her school,

_____ The gangs were the _____ an _____ by _____

_____ writing from their _____

*The *Outsiders*, published in _____, was her first novel, and with the proceeds from the book, she attended _____ majoring in _____

*After the publication of *The Outsiders*, Hinton suffered from _____

_____ for several years.

*Her books deal with teenage problems: _____

_____ Although her youthful characters often reject _____, they always have a sense of _____ in her novels.

*The *Outsiders* is called _____ because it mentions controversial topics prevalent today among _____

*One indicator of success of the novel is the movie version in _____

_____ Hinton's other novels: _____

_____ and _____

The Outsiders: S.E. Hinton

Historical Moments of the 60's

*1961 - American Forces arrived in _____

*November 2, 1963 - President _____ was _____

*1964 - The _____ arrived in the US.

*The _____ successfully advocated equal rights.

*April 4, 1968 - _____ was assassinated.

*July, 1969 - _____ walked on the _____.

*_____ was in 1969.

The 1960's and Social Upheaval

**The Outsiders* was published in _____, a restless time in the US when teenagers were _____ and _____.

*They hated the _____ and the establishment that caused it to continue.

*They resented the fact that _____

were not given opportunities to succeed.

*To voice their dissatisfaction, they had _____ and _____.

S.E. Hinton

*_____ was born in _____ in _____.

*She published her first book, _____, at age _____.

She wrote the first draft of this book at age _____.

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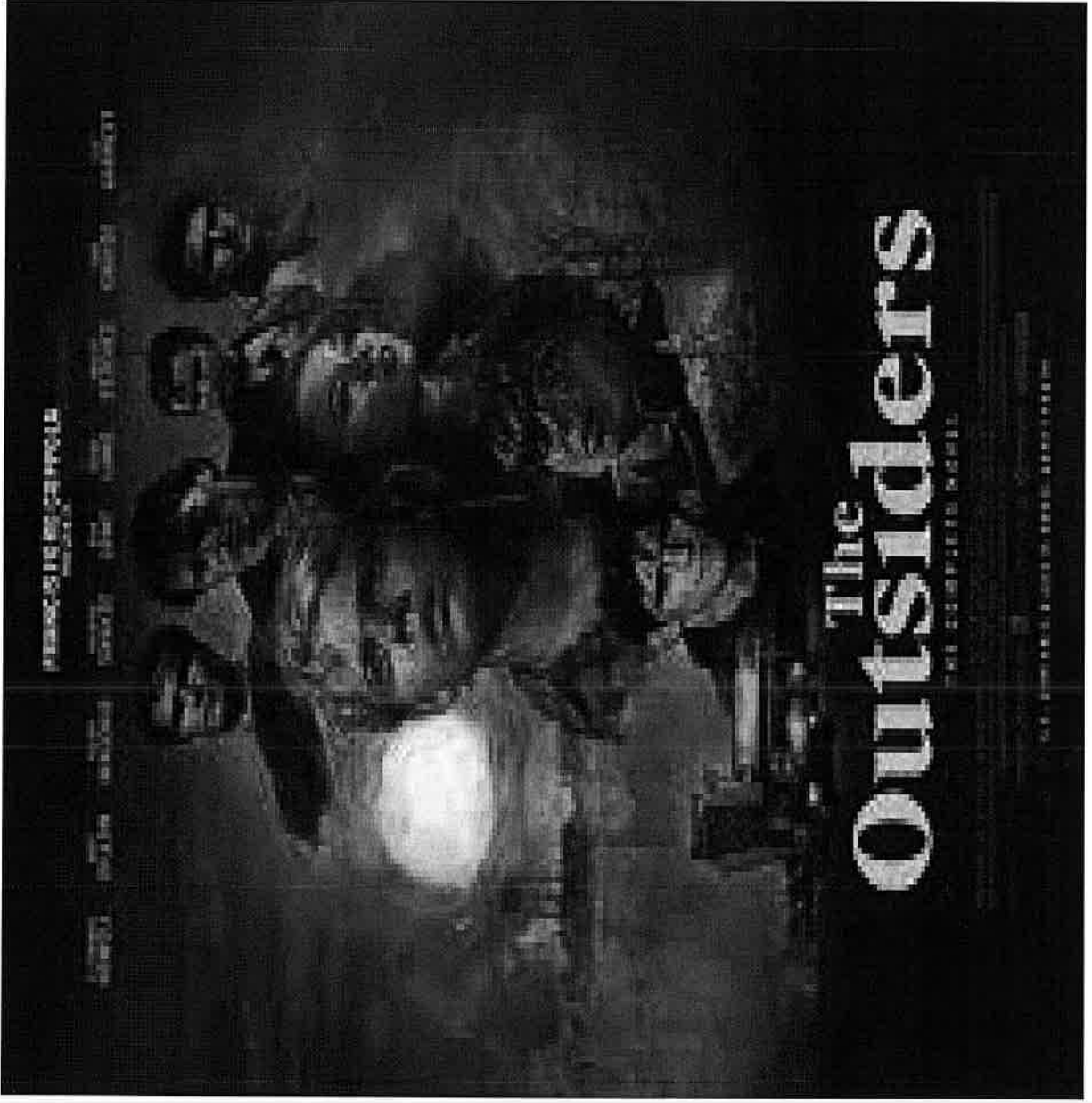
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When the hell they can't sleep...

Rob Lutz

C. Thomas Howell

Emilio Estevez

Anthony Edwards

Patrick Swayze

The Outsiders

THE OUTSIDERS

CAST: C. THOMAS HOWELL, EMILIO ESTEVEZ, ANTHONY EDWARDS, PATRICK SWAYZE, ROB LUTZ