

CP English 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton (This needs to be a NEW copy. Do not use a copy a previous student has annotated.)

(Multiple publications available, does not matter which)

What is the book about?

This summer you will be reading *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. "Ponyboy can count on his brothers. And on his friends. But not on much else besides trouble with the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids whose idea of a good time is beating up 'greasers' like Ponyboy. At least he knows what to expect - until the night someone takes things too far."

What method should I use?

Use Google Docs to create ONE file for all answers (other than the annotations) with labels for each section. Papers will be handed in on the first day of school. Please double space and use 12 point Times New Roman.

Your annotated book will be taken up on the first day of school as well.

What do I need?

You need your book, colorful highlighters and some small sticky notes/page flags.

How will I be graded?

Your summer reading assignment is broken up into four categories: annotations, personal response, essay planning, and a comprehension quiz (This will be taken on the first day of school).

Points will be divided as followed:

Annotations- **20 points**

Personal Response- **25 points**

Essay Planning - **30 points**

Comprehension Quiz - **25 points**

Total Grade= 100

1. Annotations

**Mark Sections of CONFLICT in the entire book.
(this you will turn in first day of school)**

*Use sticky notes (preferably small ones) or sticky page flags to mark pages wherever you see the beginning of some sort of conflict - this could be external like with arguments with friends, fights with his brother, or issues with the Socs; internal conflicts with Ponyboy and himself, or other types of conflict. If it continues over multiple pages (like a fight), just stick a note on the beginning page.

2. Essay Planning

Look back through the conflicts you marked throughout your novel. Pull from those to provide SPECIFIC examples to show evidence of the following conflicts Ponyboy faces. Write the page number where you find the examples. Find THREE strong examples for each topic.

NOTE: You will not write this essay over the summer. You WILL USE this essay planning guide to complete our first class essay for the nine weeks. Make sure you do a thorough job.

Pony vs. Darry	Pony/Greasers vs. Socs	Pony vs. Johnny's Death
Includes at least THREE strong examples with page numbers from the text. These can be paraphrased, summarized, or directly quoted, but should be in complete sentences	Includes at least THREE strong examples with page numbers from the text. These can be paraphrased, summarized, or directly quoted, but should be in complete sentences	Includes at least THREE strong examples with page numbers from the text. These can be paraphrased, summarized, or directly quoted, but should be in complete sentences
10 Points	10 Points	10 Points

Set your page up like this, and use all the space you need (You can copy and paste the following and input your answers after the labels):

Conflict between Ponyboy and his brother Darry

Specific example of Ponyboy vs. Darry #1:

Page number(s) for example #1:

Specific example of Ponyboy vs. Darry #2:

Page number(s) for example #2:

Specific example of Ponyboy vs. Darry #3:

Page number(s) for example #3:

Conflict between Pony/the Greasers against the Socs

Specific example of Ponyboy/Greasers vs. Socs #1:

Page number(s) for example #1:

Specific example of Ponyboy/Greasers vs. Socs #2:

Page number(s) for example #2:

Specific example of Ponyboy/Greasers vs. Socs #3:

Page number(s) for example #3:

Internal struggles Ponyboy experiences with Johnny's Death

Specific example of Ponyboy's internal conflicts #1:

Page number(s) for example #1:

Specific example of Ponyboy's internal conflicts #2:

Page number(s) for example #2:

Specific example of Ponyboy's internal conflicts #3:

Page number(s) for example #3:

3. Personal Response

Write at least 2 paragraphs on the following question:

Ponyboy and his poor group of friends are collectively known as the Greasers. Their rivals, the Socials, better known as the Socs, are rich kids from the west side of town. With which group do you most identify and why?

*Make sure to write AT LEAST two well developed paragraphs. Remember to include a topic sentence, good supporting details, and a concluding sentence.

4. Comprehension Quiz

The following questions are available to help you study for the comprehension quiz. I will not take them up. Making sure you can answer them will help you do well on the quiz the first day of class.

Chapter One

1. Who are the socs? Who are the greasers?
2. How do Ponyboy's relationships with Darry and Sodapop differ? Explain.
3. Why is the 'gang' important to Johnny?
4. Do you think Darry loves Ponyboy? Why does he treat Ponyboy the way he does?
5. What does Ponyboy mean on page 8 when he says, "I lie to myself all the time"? Why does he do this?

Chapter Two

1. Who is the fuzz?
2. Who are Cherry and Marcia?
3. Why doesn't Ponyboy like referring to Sodapop as a dropout?
4. What is Ponyboy comparing Two-Bit to when he calls him a "chessy cat"? What figure of speech is this besides a simile?
5. Why does Dally look sick now?

Chapter Three

1. What does Cherry explain as the difference between the socs and the greasers?
2. What does Ponyboy mean when he says "Johnny and I understood each other without saying anything"? Have you ever had a relationship with someone who you understood, or who understood you, without having to say anything?
3. When and how did Pony's parents die?
4. What happens when Pony comes home after his curfew?
5. At the end of the chapter, how does the author foreshadow that bad things are to come?

Chapter 4

1. What does Pony mean when he says the socs were "reeling pickled"?
2. What major event happens in this chapter?
3. How did the author foreshadow that Johnny would use his knife in chapter 2?
4. What would your advice be to Johnny and Ponyboy if they'd come to you for help instead of Dally? Explain.

Chapter 5

1. Why does Pony have a problem with Johnny's idea to disguise themselves?
2. What does Pony mean when he says, "I was supposed to be the deep one"?
3. Why does Johnny think is a hero? Do you think Dally is a hero based on what he did?
4. Why does Pony realize he doesn't like Dally? Can you explain what he means by this?
5. Examine Robert Frost's poem, "Nothing Gold can Stay." What do you think the poem is saying? How might this apply to the characters in the novel?
6. Why are the socs and the greasers going to fight in the vacant lot?

7. Who's the spy for the greasers? Does this surprise you? Why or why not?

Chapter Six

1. Do you think Dally's parents have influenced the way he is, his personality? Explain.
2. Why doesn't Dally want Johnny to turn himself in?
3. What "other side" of Dallas is revealed in this chapter?
4. Why do you think Johnny wasn't scared, despite the obvious danger?

Chapter Seven

1. Explain what Pony means when he says Soda "reminds me of a colt."
2. What condition is Johnny in after the fire?
3. Why would being crippled be worse for Johnny than someone else?
4. What was Bob's 'real' problem, according to Randy?
5. Why did Pony think it was better to see socs as "just guys"? What does he mean by this?

Chapter Eight

1. How does what the doctor first says foreshadow Johnny's condition?
2. "We needed Johnny as much as he needed the gang. And for the same reason." What do you think Pony means, and what is the reason?
3. What does Pony mean when he says, "we could get along without anyone but Johnny"?
4. If Darry didn't have Soda and Pony, why would he be a soc?
5. What does Cherry mean when she says Bob "wasn't just anyone"?

Chapter Nine

1. When Pony asks what kind of a world it is, what comment is he making about how society judges people?
2. Why do the boys fight? Why is Pony different?
3. What is the difference between Tim Sheppard's gang and Ponyboy's? Explain how Pony feels this difference might give his group the upper hand?
4. What do you think Johnny's last words to Pony mean?

Chapter Ten

1. How does Pony's dreaming, or lying to himself, finally work in this chapter?
2. Why was Johnny's dying so difficult for Dally to handle?
3. Why do you think Dally would have wanted to die?

Chapter Eleven

1. Explain why Pony might rather anyone's hate than their pity?
2. What do you think is going on with Ponyboy when he says, "Johnny didn't have anything to do with Bob's getting killed"?

Chapter Twelve

1. What 'circumstances' does Ponyboy's teacher refer to? What circumstances does Ponyboy think his teacher is referring to?
2. Why doesn't Ponyboy feel scared when the socs approach him and he threatens them with a broken bottle? How is this a dramatic change from the Ponyboy we have seen up until this point?
3. What does Darry mean when he says, "you don't just stop living because you lose someone"?
4. How do we know Sandy didn't love Soda as much as he loved her?

5. Explain how Darry and Ponyboy play tug of war with Soda.
6. What does Ponyboy end up doing for his English assignment?