

## *The Outsiders Vocabulary*

*On a separate sheet of paper list and define each of the following words for the novel. The words are divided into sections for you. Each section will be due at different times. We are reading a novel about teenage boys, gangs and social constraints, therefore your definitions should be contextually appropriate.*

### *Section 1 chapters 1 & 2*

<i>Acquired</i>	<i>Gingerly</i>
<i>Incidentally</i>	<i>Nonchalantly</i>
<i>Rarities</i>	<i>Roguishly</i>
<i>Sagely</i>	<i>Sarcastically</i>
<i>Stalked</i>	<i>Unfathomable</i>

### *Section 2 chapters 3 & 4*

<i>Apprehensive</i>	<i>Bewildering</i>
<i>Contemptuously</i>	<i>Gallantly</i>
<i>Passionately</i>	<i>Premonition</i>
<i>Quavered</i>	<i>Quivering</i>
<i>Resignedly</i>	<i>Wincing</i>

### *Section 3 chapters 5 - 7*

<i>Aghast</i>	<i>Conviction</i>
<i>Doggedly</i>	<i>Eluded</i>
<i>Hysterics</i>	<i>Imploringly</i>
<i>Indignant</i>	<i>Mimicking</i>
<i>Sullenly</i>	<i>Wistfully</i>

### *Section 4 chapters 8 & 9*

<i>Abruptly</i>	<i>Aimlessly</i>
<i>Awed</i>	<i>Debating</i>
<i>Grimacing</i>	<i>Leery</i>
<i>Mock</i>	<i>Reformatory</i>
<i>Stifled</i>	<i>Underprivileged</i>

### *Section 5* *chapters 10 - 12*

<i>Acquitted</i>	<i>Flinching</i>
<i>Idolized</i>	<i>Stupor</i>
<i>Vaguely</i>	<i>Veered</i>

**Name**

**period**

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**The Outsiders Study Guide**

*Answer the following questions in complete sentences! (half your score)*

Chapter One

1. Describe each of the characters and their relationship with one another. How do the brothers' relationships differ from one another?

2. Who are the Socs? Who are the Greasers?

3. Why is the 'gang' important to Johnny?

4. How does Ponyboy react to what Sodapop tells him about Darry?

5. Do you think Darry loves Ponyboy? Why does he treat Ponyboy the way he does?

6. What does Ponyboy mean on page 18 when he says, "I lie to myself all the time"? Do you ever lie to yourself? Why?

## Chapter Two

1. Who is "the fuzz"? (p. 20)
2. Are the names Ponyboy and Sodapop nicknames? Explain.
3. Who are Cherry and Marcia?
4. Why doesn't Ponyboy like referring to Sodapop as a dropout?
5. Ponyboy compares Two-Bit to a "chessy cat" on page 27? What figure of speech is this?
6. What is "a weed" slang for in 1967?

7. Why does Dally look sick now (p. 33)?

8. What literary device does the author use to describe Johnny's mugging/beating by the Socs (pgs. 31-34)?

### Chapter Three

1. What does Cherry explain as the difference between the Socs and the Greasers?

2. What does Ponyboy mean on p. 39 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. Why does Johnny like it better when his father is hitting him?

6. At the end of the chapter, what phrase does the author use to foreshadow that bad things are to come?

#### Chapter Four

1. What does Pony mean when he says the Socs were "reeling pickled" on page 54?

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 Five

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" (p. 75)?

3. Why does Johnny think Dally is a hero (p. 76)? 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 does this apply to the characters in the novel?

6. On page 78, Johnny compares Pony and his brothers to their parents. Which one of your parents are you most like? What similarities do you share?



5. Why do you think Johnny wasn't scared, despite the obvious danger, on page 92?

### Chapter Seven

1. What condition is Johnny in after the fire?

2. Why would being crippled be worse for Johnny than someone else?

3. What is a juvenile delinquent (p. 107)? Find a definition on the internet, in a dictionary, or create your own based on your own knowledge.

4. Why would Two-Bit think Johnny, Dally, and Pony were heroes all along, before they saved the kids?

5. What was Bob's 'real' problem, according to Randy (p.116)?

6. Why did Pony think it was better to see Socs as "just guys" on p. 118? What do you think he means by this?

## Chapter Eight

1. How does what the doctor first says, on page 119, foreshadow Johnny's condition?

2. "We needed Johnny as much as he needed the gang. And for the same reason" (p.121). What do you think Pony means, and what is the reason?

3. If Darry didn't have Soda and Pony, why would he be a Soc?

4. What does Cherry mean when she says Bob "wasn't just any boy" on p.129?

## Chapter Nine

1. On the bottom of p.132, 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? Why do you think Dally would have wanted to die?

### Chapter Eleven

1. Explain why Pony would rather have anyone's hate than their pity (p.162)?

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" (p.166)?

## Chapter Twelve

1. Why doesn't Ponyboy feel scared when the Socs approach him and he threatens them with a broken bottle (p.170-171)? How is this a dramatic change from the Ponyboy we have seen up until this point?
2. What does Darry mean when he says, "you don't just stop living because you lose someone" (p.173)?
3. How do we know Sandy didn't love Soda as much as he loved her?
4. Explain how Darry and Ponyboy play tug of war with Soda.
5. What do we learn was so special about Johnny (p.178)?
6. What does Ponyboy end up doing for his English assignment?

## Honors "The Outsiders" character diary assignment

*On a separate sheet of paper you will keep a diary for one of the characters from "The Outsiders". You will need to choose a character, NOT Ponyboy. The more prominent the character, the more you will have to write about.*

*For each chapter you need to 'diary' their thoughts, actions and/or feelings. While writing your diary, you need to take on the persona of the character. You will write in 1<sup>st</sup> person, not 3<sup>rd</sup>. Make sure to keep the same character throughout the whole novel.*

*On the top of the front page of your diary you need to identify the character you chose by using their name as the title of your work. Divide your entries by chapters, however, you may have more than one entry per chapter.*

*Example:*

### Sally's Diary

#### Chapter 1:

*Dear Diary,*

*Today we saw Ponyboy walking home from the movies. He is so cute. I wish he would ask me to the movies. Jane and I went by the gas station to see Soda, she's got the biggest crush on him. I have soo much homework. Maybe I'll ask Ponyboy for help with my schoolwork.*

*Dear Diary,*

*Oh my gosh! I just heard the worst news! Ponyboy was jumped on his way home from the movies. I hope he's ok. Maybe I should call him. I hope he's at school tomorrow. Blah....blah.....blah.....*

**Score is based on insight, recalling of major information, inferences and evaluation of character.**