`The Outsiders`

Chapter 1–2 Discussion Questions

5 Points

Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

1. Who are the socs? Who are the greasers?

2. Why is the ‘gang’ important to Johnny?

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


5. Why doesn't Ponyboy like referring to Sodapop as a dropout?
The Outsiders
Chapter 3–4 Discussion Questions
5 Points

Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

1. What does Cherry explain as the difference between the socs and the greasers? Are there groups like that at STMS?

2. Why does Johnny like it better when his father is hitting him?

3. What major event happens in this chapter?

4. How did the author foreshadow that Johnny would use his knife in chapter 2?

5. What would your advice be to Johnny and Ponyboy if they’d come to you for help instead of Dally? Explain.
Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

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 Pony realize he doesn't like Dally? Can you explain what he means by this?

4. 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?

5. Why are the socs and the greasers going to fight in the vacant lot?
The Outsiders
Chapter 6 Discussion Questions

Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

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. What's your own definition of a hero? Do the three boys prove themselves to be heroes, according to your definition? Explain.

5. Why do you think Johnny wasn't scared, despite the obvious danger, on page 92?
The Outsiders
Chapter 7 Discussion Questions
5 Points

Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.


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

5. Why did Pony think it was better to see socs as "just guys" on p. 118? What do you think he means by this?
Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

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. What does Pony mean on p. 123 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" on p.129?
Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member's name is on the paper.

1. Why do the boys fight? Why is Pony different?

2. 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?

3. What do you think Johnny's last words to Pony mean?

4. Why was Johnny's dying so difficult for Dally to handle?

5. Why do you think Dally would have wanted to die?
Discuss these questions with a group of two to four people. Write the answers on a piece of notebook paper. Each group only has to turn in one paper. Take turns writing answers, and make sure every group member’s name is on the paper.

1. Explain why Pony might rather 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)?

3. What 'circumstances' do Ponyboy's teacher refer to? What circumstances does Ponyboy think his teacher is referring to?

4. 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?

5. What does Darry mean when he says, "you don't just stop living because you lose someone" (p.173)?
# The Outsiders Character Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gang (social status)</th>
<th>Physical Appearance</th>
<th>Mannerisms/Significant Actions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ponyboy Curtis</td>
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<td>Sodapop Curtis</td>
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<td>Darry Curtis</td>
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<td>Two-Bit Matthews</td>
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<td>Steve Randle</td>
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<td>Johnny Cade</td>
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<td>Dally Winston</td>
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<td>Sylvia &amp; Evie</td>
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<td>Sandy</td>
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<td>Randy</td>
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<td>David</td>
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<td>Bob</td>
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**Compare the Greasers and the Socs**

**Greasers**

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

**Socs**

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

**Directions:** Define each word using **context clues** from the story first; then, **verify** your definition using a dictionary or some other source (Internet, a peer or parent). Revise your definition if necessary. For each section, add two words of your own choice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Your Definition</th>
<th>Match Y/N</th>
<th>Revised Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asset (p. 3)</td>
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<td>Sophisticated (p. 38)</td>
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<td>Elite (p. 41)</td>
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<td>Apprehensive (p. 59)</td>
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<td>Self-preservation (p. 59)</td>
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**Chapters 1 & 2**

**Chapters 3 & 4**
<table>
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<tr>
<td>Imploringly (p. 72)</td>
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<td>Eluded (p. 78)</td>
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<td>Genuine (p. 110)</td>
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<td>Outcast (p. 113)</td>
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<td>Critical (p. 119)</td>
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<td>Groggy (p. 126)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Menace (p. 136)</td>
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<td>Conformity (p. 137)</td>
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<td>Triumph (p. 154)</td>
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<td>Delirious (p. 158)</td>
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<td>Pity (p. 162)</td>
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<td>Acquitted (p. 168)</td>
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<td>Absent-minded (p. 169)</td>
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<td>Vast (p. 179)</td>
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</table>
1. What are the middle names of Ponyboy and Sodapop (respectively)?
   - Michael and Patrick
   - Patrick and Matthew
   - David and Patrick
   - David and Michael

2. What is Two-Bit's favorite character to watch on TV?
   Answer: [Two Words]

3. What are the names of Cherry and Marcia's boyfriends?
   - Bob and Paul
   - Paul and John
   - Randy and John
   - Bob and Randy

4. After Steve leaves the Curtis home to go to work, he is eating cake. Before he gets into the car to leave, what does Steve do with the cake?
   - Gives it to Soda
   - Throws it aside
   - Shoves it all in his mouth
   - Puts it in his pocket for later

5. What is the name of Two-Bit's girlfriend?
   Answer: [One Word (First name only)]
6. What reason does Dally give the police for speeding?
- Pony was hit by a car
- He says he wasn't speeding at all
- Pony is very sick
- Pony fell off his motorcycle

7. What did Johnny often think of doing before, that in the hospital, he admits he regrets?
- Trying to run away
- Trying to commit suicide
- Trying to leave the gang
- Trying to kill his parents

8. How many different shirts does Two-Bit wear throughout the movie?
- 10
- 1
- 2
- 7

9. In a conversation between Cherry and Ponyboy, Ponyboy says 'We don't need your _______.'
- Charity
- Grief
- Pity
- Money

10. Ponyboy says he hates his new haircut because it's like being in ___________.
- A tight bind
- Hell
- A Halloween costume you can't get out of
- A bad dream
11. What gas station does Soda work for?

Answer: [Blank] (One Word (Two Letters, actually))

12. When Soda is just getting out of the shower, (and the whole gang is at the house) he tells Ponyboy to do what?

- Hand him a towel
- Shut the door
- Tell Steve he will be ready in a minute
- Find his pants

13. Which arm did Dally burn in the fire?

Answer: [Blank] (One Word (Left or right))

14. Before Soda and Steve leave for work, what does Soda forget to grab?

- His shoes
- His coat
- His hat
- His shirt

15. Fill in the missing words from this quote: 'There are __________, __________ people in the country.'

Answer: [Blank] (Two Words (no punctuation needed))