

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pd: \_\_\_\_\_

# ***The Outsiders***

# **Study Guide**

During our reading of *The Outsiders*, you are to complete this study guide. It will be collected at the end of the unit for a grade. I will also be checking your packet for grades randomly throughout the unit to make sure you are keeping up with your work.

For almost every chapter there is a vocabulary section and questions. For the vocabulary you must draw a picture that will help you remember the word or correctly use the word in a sentence (not the sentence from the story). When answering the questions for each chapter, remember to answer the question completely and in complete sentences. Restate the question! Many questions ask for multiple parts to the answer or reasoning why you gave the answer.

## **The Outsiders Pre-reading Survey**

**Directions: Below is a series of statements. Circle the response that most closely indicates how you feel about statement.**

1. You can tell a lot about a person by the clothes he/she wears.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

2. Most people pick friends who have similar interests and backgrounds.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

3. It's easy to make friends with lots of different people.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

4. You can tell a lot about a person by the friends he/she has.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

5. You can recognize intelligent people by the way they look.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

6. Loyalty is extremely important between or among friends.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

7. In spite of outward differences, people want the same things: love, acceptance, and respect.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

8. It's easy to form opinions about people without getting to know them.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

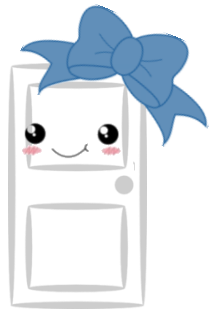
## Vocabulary Instructions

Look at the vocabulary word, what is the first thing (object) you think of when you see that word?

Example: adorable → door

Then look at the definition and connect it to your first object.  
Draw a picture.

Example: adorable – cute → draw a cute door



More examples:

Example Words	Definition	Picture
pioneer		
grapple		
legendary		

## Chapter 1

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
asset	a useful or valuable thing, person, or quality	
suffocate	not able to breathe	
loping	walking with big steps	
sympathetic	to feel sorry for	
irresistibly	can't live without	
unfathomable	not able to think about or believe	
suspicious	curious	
savvy	to understand or "get it"	
sarcasm	saying the opposite in a smart tone	

Who is the narrator of *The Outsiders*?

What two groups of teenagers does Ponyboy describe? Compare the two groups.

Why did the Socs beat up Ponyboy?

Why did Ponyboy have a hard time with his oldest brother?

How are Ponyboy and his friends like you? Different than you?

Why do you think the author uses non-standard English?

Fill in the following chart with physical descriptions and personality traits for each of the important characters we learned about in Chapter 1. You may find this information in the book or on the signs around the room.

	Physical Description	Personality Traits
Ponyboy		
Sodapop		
Darry		
Steve Randle		
Two-Bit Matthews		
Dally Winston		
Johnny Cade		

## Chapter 2

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
roguishly	playfully mischievous; causing trouble in a playful way	
incredulous	feeling or showing an inability to believe in something	
fiery	full of emotion	
stalked	to walk in an angry or stiff manner	
nonchalantly	having a confident and easy manner	
innocent	free of crime	
bickering	to take part in a noisy quarrel	
stricken	hit by misfortune or sorrow	
vaguely	not definite, not clear	

rebellious	inclined to resist authority	
law-abiding	following the law	

Where do the Socs and Greasers hang out? What do they do for fun?

Who did Johnny and Ponyboy meet at the drive-ins?

What kind of rules do gang members follow in fair fights?

How could Cherry be a problem for Dally?



### Chapter 3

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
gallantly	brave, attentive to women; well-dressed	
aloofness	removed or distant either physically or emotionally	
ornery	to be irritable; mischievous	
elite	the best and most important group	
resignedly	giving in impatiently	

Why do you think Ponyboy and Cherry become good friends?

Do the characters in this book seem “real”? Why or why not? How does the author try to make them believable?

Why did Cherry and Marcia leave their dates?

Why do you think Darry hit Ponyboy?

## Chapter 4

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
unceasingly	without end/nonstop	
bootlegging	selling illegally	
contemptuously	with hate	
ruefully	in a sorrowful or sad, regretful way	
reformatory	detention center or juvenile center	
premonition	knowing something before it happened	

Who (Greasers or Socs) do you think was wrong in the situation in this chapter? Why?

If you had been one of the Socs, how would you have felt after Bob was stabbed? Why?

If you had been one of the Greasers, how would you have felt after Bob was stabbed? Why?

Why did Ponyboy turn to Dally for help?

## Chapter 5

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
reluctantly	with hesitation or unwillingness	
imploringly	done in a begging way	
sullenly	silently; because of a bad mood or anger	
eluded	avoided or escaped	
fiend	wicked or cruel person	
indignant	angry about something unfair	
gorged	ate greedily	

Do you think hiding out was the best thing for Johnny and Ponyboy to do? Why or why not?

What did Johnny admire about Dally?

Why did the boys cut their hair? Does the length of hair mean much to the boys? How would you feel about chopping and coloring your own hair?

## Chapter 6

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
conviction	a strong belief	
inhalation	breathing into the lungs	
plasma	blood	
hysterics	uncontrollable laughter or crying	
racking	to strain or torment	

Why do you think Cherry chose to associate with – and later help – Johnny and Ponyboy? Is she a spy for the Socs?

Why do you think Johnny decided they should turn themselves in?

What did Ponyboy learn about Darry?

## Chapter 7

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
mimicking	to imitate	
palomino	type of horse	
manslaughter	the unintentional killing of another person	
aghast	struck with horror, terror, or amazement	

How were the boys injured? Why could they be considered heroes?

What additional problem did the brothers face after Ponyboy's return?

What did Randy say kids want from parents? Do you agree or would you add some other points?

## Chapter 8

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
numbly	without feeling	
faltered	stumbled; tripped over one's own feet or words	
resemblance	likeness or similarity	
divert	to turn away from or distract	

Why did Ponyboy and Two-Bit think they couldn't get along without Johnny?

How did Johnny feel about dying?

What did Johnny want the boys to get for him in the hospital? Why were these things important?

Do you think Johnny really meant that he didn't see his mother or was he lying? Why?



## Chapter 9

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
miniature	small version of	
grimacing	making a face as if you are in pain	
amplifier	a device to make something louder	
escort	someone to accompany or protect	

What were the reasons that the various boys gave for fighting? Be specific!

What advice did Dally give to Ponyboy on their way to the hospital after the rumble?

What did Johnny mean when he told Ponyboy to “stay gold”?

## Chapter 10

Vocabulary Word	Definition	Picture/Sentence
concussion	a head injury	
delirious	confused/wildly excited or out of one's mind	

Do you think the rumble was worth the trouble? Why?

Why did Dally want to die?

How do you think the other Greasers will end up? Why?

## **Chapter 11**

Why do you think Ponyboy was ill?

Why did Randy come to visit Ponyboy when he was ill? Why did Ponyboy not care that Randy was seeing his house in a messy condition?

Why do you think Ponyboy said he'd killed Bob and that Johnny wasn't dead?

## **Chapter 12**

Why was the court hearing important? What were possible decisions of the court?

Why do you think Ponyboy's life was still troubled after the court hearing?

What message did Johnny leave in the book?