

Week 1: Chapters 1 – 2

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

1. reckon
2. asset
3. conscious
4. madras
5. sympathetic
6. unfathomable
7. roguish
8. ligament
9. incredulous
10. nonchalant

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. Use **textual evidence where ever you can**. Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. Who are the greasers? The Socs?
2. Why do you think that the Socs hate the greasers?
3. Discuss the character of Ponyboy? What do you think about him? Why does he behave the way that he does?
4. How does Ponyboy getting jumped help us to understand the emotional setting of the novel?
5. What does it mean when it says that "In our neighbourhood it's rare to find a kid who doesn't drink once in a while. But Soda never touches a drop – he doesn't need to. He gets drunk on just plain living"?
6. What does Dally do to the girls at the drive-in? Why do you think that he behaves that way?
7. Why does Cherry talk to Ponyboy? Why shouldn't she?
8. The first two chapters have mostly introduced the characters and the setting. Make a prediction as to what you believe the conflict will be about. Justify your prediction (explain it).

The Terminator

Similes are a comparison of two unlike things using the words like, as, or than.

There are a variety of similes in the first two chapters; many of them are used to describe people. Find four examples of similes

that compare people to something and record them with the appropriate page number.

With each simile you must break it down and explain what is being compared and what the effect of the comparison is. For example:

Tim is as fast as a cheetah.

What is being compared: Tim and a cheetah.

What is the effect of the comparison: Tim is being shown as very fast.

Now you must make four of your own similes to describe your group members via comparison of unlike things. As above, with each simile, you must explain what is being compared and what the effect of the comparison is.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for each of the first two chapters.

The Illustrator/
The Questioner

Choose an scene within the first two chapters and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...

Week 2: Chapters 3 – 4

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

1. impersonal
2. buckskin
3. ornery
4. urge
5. hoodlum
6. resign
7. bawl
8. quaver
9. apprehensive
10. contemptuous

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. **Use textual evidence where ever you can.** Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. What does Cherry explain as the difference between the Socs and the greasers?
2. Why does Johnny go white at the sight of the blue mustang?
3. What happens when Ponyboy comes home after his curfew? How does that inform our understanding of Ponyboy and Darry's relationship?
4. Why does Johnny like it better when his father is hitting him?
5. What major event happens in chapter four? Explain how it starts, happens, and ends. What type of conflict does this create?
6. How would you have advised Ponyboy and Johnny had they come to you instead of Dally? Explain.

The Terminator

Foreshadowing is hints and clues that the author provides about future events in the novel before they happen.

Look back to chapter two; how did Hinton foreshadow that Johnny would use his knife? Explain.

Look to the end of chapter three. How are the last few lines an example of foreshadowing? Explain.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for both chapters three and four.

The Illustrator/
The Questioner

Choose an scene within chapters three and four and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...

Week 3: Chapters 5 – 6

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

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|--------------|---------------|
| 1. gallant | 6. gorged |
| 2. elude | 7. eager |
| 3. fiend | 8. conviction |
| 4. siege | 9. detached |
| 5. indignant | 10. cinders |

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. Use **textual evidence where ever you can**. Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. Why does Ponyboy have a problem with Johnny's idea to disguise themselves? (Hint: Go beyond the hair; what does the hair represent?)
2. Why does Ponyboy realize he doesn't like Dally? Can you explain what he means by this?
3. 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?
4. What's a "heater"? Why does Dally have one?
5. Why are the Socs and the greasers going to fight in the vacant lot?
6. Who's a spy for the greasers? Does this surprise you? Why or why not?
7. How do you think that Dally's parents have influenced the way that he is (his personality, what he cares about, etc)?
8. Why do you think Johnny wasn't scared despite the obvious danger in the church?

The Terminator

Identify what type of point of view is being used in the story. Explain why this particular point of view is effective within the story. Look at the other points of view that you are aware of. Explain why you think the author chose not to use them. Be detailed in your explanation.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for both chapters five and six.

The Illustrator/
The Questioner

Choose an scene within chapters five and six and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...

Week 4: Chapters 7 – 8

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

1. critical
2. bleak
3. drawl
4. impatient
5. delinquent
6. aghast
7. contemptuous
8. resemblance
9. traitor
10. ashamed

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. Use **textual evidence where ever you can**. Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. What condition is Johnny in after the fire? Why would this condition be worse for Johnny than for anyone else?
2. What was Bob's real problem according to Randy?
3. Why do you think that Ponyboy thought it was better to see the Socs as just guys rather than Socs? What does he mean by that?
4. Where has Sandy gone? Why has she gone?
5. Why is Johnny thinking differently about death now? How did he think about it before?
6. What does Ponyboy mean when he says that "We needed Johnny as much as he needed the gang. And for the same reasons"? What are the reasons?
7. What does Two-Bit mean when he says that "[he wishes] it was anyone but Johnny...[they] could get along without anyone but Johnny"?
8. If Darry didn't have Sodapop and Ponyboy why would he be a Soc? Why does he choose not to be? Is it a choice?

The Terminator

A stereotype character is one that is based on a generalization about a person or a group of persons.

Many of the characters in this novel are based on stereotypes; indeed, their conflict is entirely stereotypical. Explain what the

stereotypes are and how the characters are finding out that the stereotypes they hold for each other may not be true.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for both chapters seven and eight.

The Illustrator/
The Questioner

Choose an scene within chapters seven and eight and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...

Week 5: Chapters 9 – 10

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

1. reformatory
2. rueful
3. leery
4. savvy
5. pity
6. escort
7. stupor
8. dumbfounded
9. delirious
10. reckless

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. Use **textual evidence where ever you can**. Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. In the beginning of chapter nine there is a section in brackets where Ponyboy is discussing the world. What comment is he making about how society judges people?
2. Why do the boys fight? Why is Ponyboy different?
3. What is the difference between Tim Sheppard's gang and Ponyboy's? Explain how Ponyboy thinks this difference might give his group the upper hand.
4. What do you think Johnny's last words to Ponyboy mean?
5. Why was Johnny's death so difficult for Dally to handle?
6. Why do you think that Dally wanted to die?

The Terminator

Three of the ways of achieving suspense within a novel are to create mystery, to place a character in a dilemma, and to create a dangerous situation or crisis that the characters must face. (For more information see your short story notes). How is the suspense built up in this novel using all three techniques (they are all used, though they may be at different times)? Explain using textual references.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for both chapters nine and ten.

The Illustrator/ The Questioner

Choose an scene within chapters nine and ten and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...

Week 6: Chapters 11 – 12

The Definer

The following are your vocabulary words. Please define them using a dictionary, record the definition, and provide an original sentence that demonstrates your comprehension of the proper usage of the word.

1. idolize
2. liable
3. bewilder
4. acquitted
5. veer
6. plead
7. vacuum
8. granted
9. shame
10. middleman

The Recorder

Discuss the following questions with your group and take point form notes to help you remember the discussion. Use **textual evidence where ever you can**. Write down the conclusions that your group arrives at in good copy at the end.

1. Explain why Ponyboy says that would rather have people's hate than their pity.
2. What do you think is going on with Ponyboy when he claims that Johnny didn't kill Bob?
3. When the teacher mentions Ponyboy's "circumstances" what is he referring to? What does Ponyboy think the "circumstances" are referring to?
4. When Ponyboy returns to school after Johnny's and Dally's death, he is unable to function at the level he did before. His grades drop, he's clumsy, and nothing is easy for him. Why does this change occur? Is it a permanent change? How do we know?
5. 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 time?
6. What does Darry mean when he says "you don't just stop living because you lose someone"?
7. How do we know that Sandy didn't love Sodapop as much as he loved her?
8. Explain how Darry and Ponyboy play tug-of-war with Sodapop.

The Terminator

The conclusion follows soon after the climax. It explains any details which could not be explained before the climax or the suspense would be ruined. There are three types of endings to a story: happy, unhappy, and indeterminate.

Now that The Outsiders is finished, look back to the story and decide what the major conflict was. Explain when it began (inciting incident) and when it was resolved (climax). Look to the events that occurred after the climax and discuss the conclusion; what do we find out that we didn't know before? Also, explain what type of ending occurs in the novel and justify your explanation.

The Summarizer

Write a short paragraph summary for both chapters eleven and twelve.

The Illustrator/ The Questioner

Choose an scene within chapters eleven and twelve and create an image which depicts it colourfully.

Create five questions regarding issues that puzzle or concern you about events, characters, or anything else that you are wondering about. Use some of the following starters if you are struggling to create questions:

I am confused about...

I wonder...

I think that...

How did...

Why did...