

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

## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

### Chapter 1

1. Why does Ponyboy go to the movies alone?  
How does this establish him in relationship to his brothers and friends?

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2. According to Ponyboy, why can't greasers walk alone?

- a.** They live in a high-crime area.      **b.** Cops will harass them.  
**c.** They'll get jumped.      **d.** Their parents will punish them.

3. What happened to Ponyboy's parents?

- a.** They died in a car accident.      **b.** They died in a house fire.  
**c.** They abandoned their kids.      **d.** They were murdered.

4. Use quotes from the text to describe what happens to the narrator on the way home from the movies. Be sure to include how it concludes.

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## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

5. Which description of Johnny Cade is accurate?
- a. He is regularly beat up by his father and ignored by his mother. He was recently badly beaten by the Socs, which left him very fearful.
  - b. He was recently attacked by the Socs, which turned him very violent. He now plans to get back at his abusive parents.
  - c. He is usually ignored by his drunk father and never knew his mother because she is in prison. He hopes to become a Soc one day.
  - d. His drunk mother abuses him while his dad ignores him. The Socs often harass him, which makes him self-conscious and defensive.
6. According to Ponyboy, what makes Dallas different from other greasers?
- a. He is a criminal.
  - b. He is more charming.
  - c. He is meaner.
  - d. He is a natural leader.
7. Explain the difference between *tough* and *tuff*. How are these terms relevant to Ponyboy's life, and why do you think he believes it is important to acknowledge the distinction?

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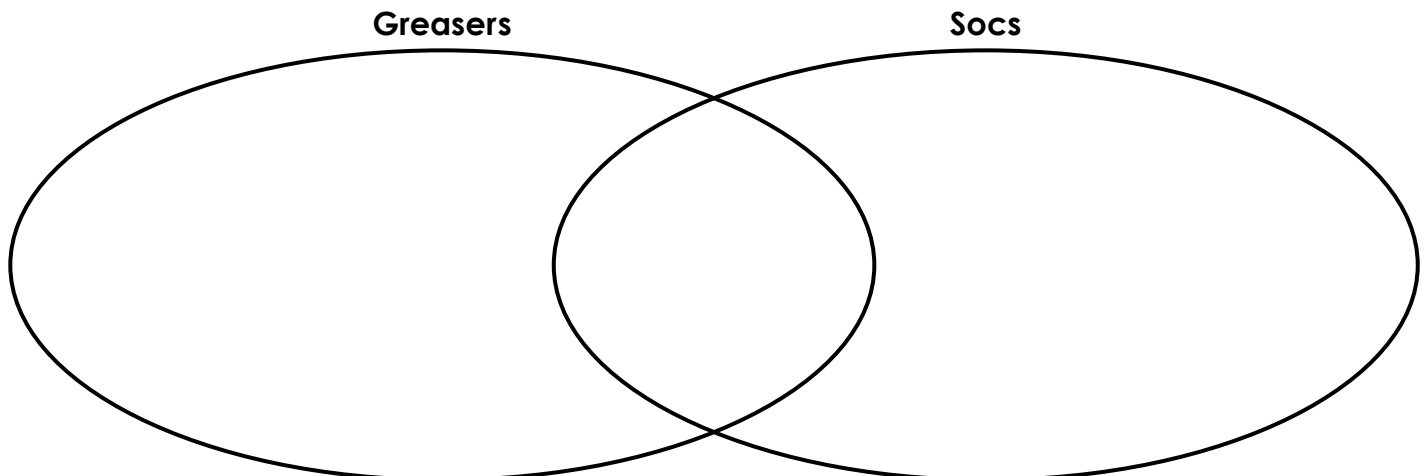
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8. Complete the Venn diagram with characteristics of the greasers and Socs as described by the narrator and observed through events in chapter 1.



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Use with the book:  
**The Outsiders** by S. E. Hinton

## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

### Chapter 2

1. Based on your understanding of the characters and setting so far, what is the most likely reason for Dally's inappropriate language with the girls at the drive-in?

- a. He lacks confidence and hides behind his vulgar words.
- b. He lives a socially isolated life and doesn't know any better.
- c. He thinks it makes him look cool and attractive.
- d. He is using power and intimidation to get what he wants.



2. Reread the following quote.

*"Incidentally, we don't mind being called greaser by another greaser. It's kind of playful then."*

How does this relate to the idea of *insiders* versus *outsiders*?

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3. Fill in the table to describe what is revealed about Cherry and Marcia as characters though their interactions with the indicated greaser(s).

| Character(s)     | What It Reveals About Cherry & Marcia |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dally            |                                       |
| Ponyboy & Johnny |                                       |
| Two-Bit Matthews |                                       |

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## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

4. According to Ponyboy and Two-Bit, what are the two rules for greasers?
- a. Never walk alone and never run away.
  - b. Never back down without a fight and always stick together.
  - c. Always stick together and never get caught.
  - d. Always be prepared for a fight and never snitch on each other.
5. Which is **not** true about Dally?
- a. He was recently in jail.
  - b. He wouldn't rough up a greaser.
  - c. He is a skilled shoplifter.
  - d. He hates being told what to do.
6. Which is **not** true about Johnny?
- a. He is either too shy or too scared to talk to girls.
  - b. The first time he stood up to Dally was to protect Cherry.
  - c. He is tall for his age and often mistaken for older than he is.
  - d. His nerves and jumpiness started with his treatment at home.
7. Why was Johnny so traumatized by what happened to him almost four months ago?  
Use at least one quote from the description of the incident to support your explanation.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
8. What kind of car was involved in Johnny's attack?
- a. a red Corvair
  - b. a blue Mustang
  - c. a black Chevy
  - d. a green car, unknown make
9. Cherry states, "Things are rough all over." What does she mean by this?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

### Chapter 1

1. Why does Ponyboy go to the movies alone? How does this establish him in relationship to his brothers and friends?

**He does not like to be disturbed because he finds the movie-viewing experience very personal. He explains that this makes him different from his brothers and friends since none of them share the same passion.**



2. According to Ponyboy, why can't greasers walk alone?

a. They live in a high-crime area.      b. Cops will harass them.  
**c. They'll get jumped.**      d. Their parents will punish them.

3. What happened to Ponyboy's parents?

**a. They died in a car accident.**      b. They died in a house fire.  
c. They abandoned their kids.      d. They were murdered.

4. Use quotes from the text to describe what happens to the narrator on the way home from the movies. Be sure to include how it concludes.

**Quotes will vary but should describe Ponyboy being followed and attacked by Socs that pull up in a red Corvair. He is eventually rescued by his brothers and the other greasers: Darry, Sodapop, Steve Randle, Two-Bit Mathews, Dallas "Dally" Winston, and Johnny Cade.**

## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

5. Which description of Johnny Cade is accurate?

**a. He is regularly beat up by his father and ignored by his mother. He was recently badly beaten by the Socs, which left him very fearful.**

b. He was recently attacked by the Socs, which turned him very violent. He now plans to get back at his abusive parents.

c. He is usually ignored by his drunk father and never knew his mother because she is in prison. He hopes to become a Soc one day.

d. His drunk mother abuses him while his dad ignores him. The Socs often harass him, which makes him self-conscious and defensive.

6. According to Ponyboy, what makes Dallas different from other greasers?

a. He is a criminal.

b. He is more charming.

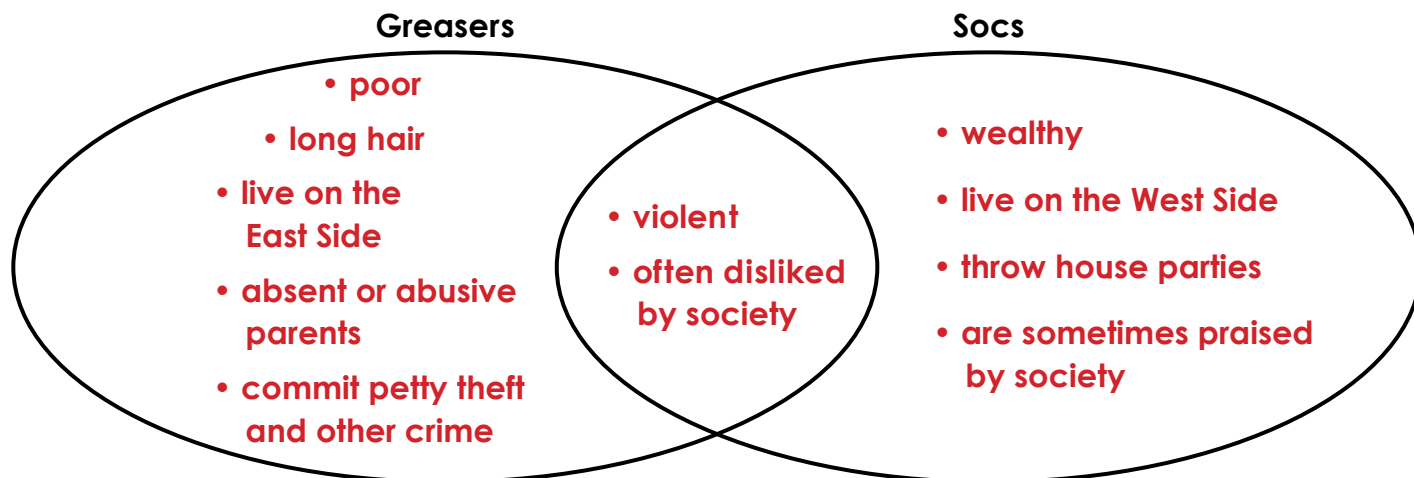
**c. He is meaner.**

d. He is a natural leader.

7. Explain the difference between *tough* and *tuff*. How are these terms relevant to Ponyboy's life, and why do you think he believes it is important to acknowledge the distinction?

**"Tough is the same as rough; tuff means cool, sharp..." Explanations will vary.**

8. Complete the Venn diagram with characteristics of the greasers and Socs as described by the narrator and observed through events in chapter 1.



## The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

### Chapter 2

1. Based on your understanding of the characters and setting so far, what is the most likely reason for Dally's inappropriate language with the girls at the drive-in?

- a. He lacks confidence and hides behind his vulgar words.
- b. He lives a socially isolated life and doesn't know any better.
- c. He thinks it makes him look cool and attractive.

**d. He is using power and intimidation to get what he wants.**



2. Reread the following quote.

*"Incidentally, we don't mind being called greaser by another greaser. It's kind of playful then."*

How does this relate to the idea of *insiders* versus *outsiders*?

**Answers may vary. An example is: Insiders have special privileges that outsiders do not.**

3. Fill in the table to describe what is revealed about Cherry and Marcia as characters though their interactions with the indicated greaser(s).

| Character(s)     | What It Reveals About Cherry & Marcia                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Dally            | <b>They are tough and will stand up for themselves.</b> |
| Ponyboy & Johnny | <b>They are kind to those who are kind to them.</b>     |
| Two-Bit Matthews | <b>They can joke and be sarcastic.</b>                  |

## ANSWER KEY

### The Outsiders: Chapters 1–2

4. According to Ponyboy and Two-Bit, what are the two rules for greasers?

- a. Never walk alone and never run away.
- b. Never back down without a fight and always stick together.
- c. Always stick together and never get caught.**
- d. Always be prepared for a fight and never snitch on each other.

5. Which is *not* true about Dally?

- a. He was recently in jail.
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6. Which is *not* true about Johnny?

- a. He is either too shy or too scared to talk to girls.
- b. The first time he stood up to Dally was to protect Cherry.
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- d. His nerves and jumpiness started with his treatment at home.

7. Why was Johnny so traumatized by what happened to him almost four months ago? Use at least one quote from the description of the incident to support your explanation.

**Answers will vary but should indicate the severity of the attack, e.g., "I thought he might be dead."**

8. What kind of car was involved in Johnny's attack?

- a. a red Corvair
- b. a blue Mustang**
- c. a black Chevy
- d. a green car, unknown make

9. Cherry states, "Things are rough all over." What does she mean by this?

**People everywhere have their own struggles and hardships; instead of eliminating problems entirely, money just changes what the problems are.**