

Name: _____

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

The Outsiders: Chapters 3–4

Chapter 3

1. What does Ponyboy first say the difference between greasers and Socs is?
 - a. money
 - b. interests
 - c. toughness
 - d. education
2. What does Cherry say the real difference is between the groups? Explain what she means.



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the printable version of this worksheet.

4. Explain who Mickey Mouse is and who he represents in the novel. Why might the author have considered this a significant detail? What does it reveal about character or theme?

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The Outsiders: Chapters 3–4

5. What is the significance of the blue Mustang?

- a. The boys often see it at school, and they are resentful of the reminder that they can never afford such a nice car.
- b. It is similar to the car Ponyboy's parents crashed into.
- c. It is the kind of car that pulled up in the vacant lot the night Johnny was beaten.
- d. It is the kind of car that followed Ponyboy home from the movies.

6. What is the meaning of the following statement?

"Ponyboy... I mean... if I see you in the hall at school or someplace and don't say hi, well, it's not personal or anything, but..."

A cartoon superhero with brown hair, wearing a blue suit with a red cape and a shield emblem with the letters 'STW' on his chest, is flying through a blue sky with white clouds.

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8. What does Johnny mean when he says, "I can't take much more"?
Are there any similarities with Ponyboy and Darry's interaction?

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The Outsiders: Chapters 3–4

9. The following quote best exemplifies which literary device?

"Things gotta get better, I figured. They couldn't get worse. I was wrong."

- a. imagery
- b. characterization
- c. symbolism
- d. foreshadowing

Chapter 4

1. How does description of the setting help set the mood of the park scene?





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"He was as white as a ghost and his eyes were wild-looking, like the eyes of an animal in a trap."

metaphor

allusion

hyperbole

simile

3. What happened between Johnny and Bob?

- a. Johnny beat Bob to death as revenge for when Bob jumped him.
- b. Johnny accidentally pushed Bob, who fatally hit his head on the pavement.
- c. Johnny pulled out a gun he'd stolen and shot Bob in a rage.
- d. Johnny stabbed Bob because the Socs were drowning Ponyboy.

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The Outsiders: Chapters 3–4

4. What does Johnny say they need in the aftermath?

5. Reread the excerpt describing Dallas Winston.

"Yet in his hard face there was character, pride, and a savage defiance of the world. He could never love Cherry Valance back. It would be a miracle if Dally loved anything. The fight for self-preservation had hardened him beyond caring. He didn't bat an eye when Johnny told him what had happened, only grinned and said 'Good for you, kid. You're a tough kid. You're a real tough kid.'"



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6. Summarize Dally's instructions to Johnny and Ponyboy.

7. Situational irony is a literary device where what happens is the opposite of what is expected. It is often used for humor, emphasis through contrast, or adding thematic meaning.

Based on what you know about Ponyboy—and especially his dreams as expressed in chapter 3—what is ironic about the location of the church? Why might this be significant?

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that they are all hardened and mean.

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7.

8.

away from it all, even if it might mean killing himself. After Darry slaps Ponyboy, Ponyboy plans to run away, showing that he is similarly overwhelmed by his circumstances.

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ANSWER KEY

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4. What does Johnny say they need in the aftermath?

money, a gun, a plan, and Dally

5.

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6.

7.



chapter 3—what is ironic about the location of the church? why might this be significant?

It is ironic because the church is in the country, where Ponyboy previously stated that he wanted to move because it would mean leaving behind the conflicts between greasers and Socs. However, he is only there now because of the severity of the conflict, and these are the opposite of the peaceful and relaxing living conditions he had imagined.

Explanations for why this may be significant will differ.