

Name: _____

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

The Outsiders: Prereading Reflection

1. In your own words, what is the difference between an *outsider* and an *insider*?

2. Describe a time when you have felt like an outsider. How did it affect you?
(Consider group activities or projects, sports, online communities, etc.)

3. Are there different groups of students who tend to stick together at your school?
What kinds of shared characteristics bring these groups together?

4. In terms of popularity and social groups, how would you describe where you fit in at school?
Do you consider yourself more of an insider or an outsider?

5. Describe your friend group. What similarities bring you together?

6. What is one rule or tradition your friend group has?
(Consider norms like chat groups, meeting up on weekends, eating together, etc.)

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7. Do you think someone can belong to multiple groups at school? Explain.

8. Do you think where someone grows up or how much money their family has can affect how others treat them? Why or why not?

9. List one stereotype attached to each of the following groups:

- a. band kids _____
- b. athletes _____
- c. theater kids _____
- d. honors students _____
- e. cheerleaders _____
- f. gamers _____
- g. artistic students _____

Are these stereotypes always true? How might it feel to be judged based on a label? Explain.

10. *The Outsiders* takes place in the 1960s, a time when conflicts between people or groups were often handled through physical fights or other violence. In the digital age, the way most people deal with conflict has changed. How might social media affect the way you or your peers handle disagreements or confrontations? Do you think social media makes conflicts or bullying better or worse? Explain your reasoning.
