Comprehension Questions – THE OUTSIDERS –

SECTION 1 – Chapters 1-2

* 1. Summary of Main Events:
  2. What happens to Ponyboy on his way home from the movies?
  3. Briefly describe the conflict between the Greasers and the Socs?
  4. What happened to the Curtis brothers’ parents?
  5. How is Ponyboy different from the rest of the Greasers?
  6. In one well written sentence, characterize Darry.
  7. In one well written sentence, characterize Sodapop.
  8. List the (4) greasers who are at the movie ‘with’ Cherry & Marcia.
  9. What does Ponyboy tell Cherry while standing in line for popcorn?
  10. Explain what Cherry means when she says, “Things are rough all over.”

Comprehension Questions – THE OUTSIDERS –

SECTION **2 -** Chapters 3-4

1. Summary of Main Events:
2. What does Cherry say is the real separation between the Socs and the Greasers?
3. Who is Mickey Mouse and why is he so important in Sodapop’s life?
4. Why does Ponyboy remind Cherry that they both watch the same sunsets?
5. Why is Ponyboy surprised when Cherry tells him with whom she might be likely to fall in love?
6. Explain Ponyboy’s motivation for running away.
7. What did the Socs do to make Johnny kill Bob?
8. In one well-written sentence, characterize Dally.
9. What does Dally give Ponyboy and Johnny to take with them to Windrixville?
10. How long do you think the boys will be able to hide out at the church?

Comprehension Questions – THE OUTSIDERS –

SECTION **3 -** Chapters 5-7

1. Summary of Main Events:
2. Why is Ponyboy’s hair so important to him?
3. Explain the meaning of the poem, “Nothing Gold Can Stay,” from chapter 5.
4. When Dally comes to the abandoned church, be brings Ponyboy a letter from Sodapop. Describe the contents of the letter.
5. Who is the spy for the Greasers?
6. Why does Johnny decide to turn himself in?
7. In one well-written sentence, characterize Dally’s relationship with Johnny.
8. What do Johnny and Ponyboy do when they know the children are in the church? Are they scared?
9. What does the doctor say will happen to Johnny?

10. What Soc wants to talk to Ponyboy? Why?

Comprehension Questions – THE OUTSIDERS –

SECTION **4 -** Chapters 8-9

1. Summary of Main Events:
2. Explain Ponyboy’s words when he visits Johnny in the hospital: “I figured that Southern gentlemen had nothing on Johnny Cade.”
3. What is Johnny’s reaction when the nurse tells him that his mother is at the hospital to see him?

4. What reason does Cherry give Ponyboy for not going to see Johnny in the hospital?

* 1. In one well-written sentence, describe the mood at the Curtis house just before the rumble.
  2. Ponyboy feels the only reason to fight is self-defense. According to his survey, why do these others fight?
     + Darry -
     + Two-Bit -
     + Soda -
     + Steve -
  3. Who comes late to the rumble? What effect does his late entrance have?
  4. What kind of weapons do the Greasers and Socs use in the rumble?
  5. Where does Dally take Ponyboy after the rumble?
  6. What are Johnny’s last words?

Comprehension Questions – THE OUTSIDERS –

SECTION 5 – Chapters 10-12

1. Summary of Main Events:
2. Why can’t Dally accept Johnny’s death?
3. Does Dally want to die? Explain.
4. Why does Ponyboy collapse the night of the rumble?
5. What does Johnny give to the nurse for Ponyboy?
6. What thoughts are triggered in Ponyboy’s mind when he sees Bob in the yearbook?
7. Who does Ponyboy tell Randy was the person who killed Bob?
8. What does Ponyboy do with the broken bottle glass that makes Two-Bit know that Ponyboy will not get tough?
9. In the letter Johnny writes Ponyboy, what does he ask Ponyboy to tell Dally?

10. What is the subject of Ponyboy’s theme for English class?