

The Outsiders

by S.E. Hinton



+The Outsiders offers an eyewitness journey into the lives of two teenage gangs in the early 1960s. Through the eyes of Ponyboy Curtis, the cruel and often violent world of the inner city unfolds before the reader's eyes. The greasers, a gang of young men from the poor side of town, struggle for identity in a world that offers them only denial, deprivation, and loneliness; the Socs, the more wealthy group, parade their extravagance over their less fortunate counterparts.

When the two gangs meet by accident, a fight usually follows, leaving members from both sides battered and bruised.



One night, things are taken too far, triggering a chain of events that will change both groups forever.

Our Author



S.E. Hinton

-S.E. Hinton began writing *The Outsiders* when she was 15 years old.

-She was advised to use S.E. rather than her full name (Susan Eloise) because of a concern that boys might not want to read a book about gang life if they knew it was written by a girl.

-*The Outsiders* are versions of Greasers and Socs that she knew growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

-*The Outsiders* shocked many reviewers, but readers embraced the novel. At the time, realistic teenage fiction didn't exist.

-S.E. Hinton became known as "the voice of youth", among other titles.

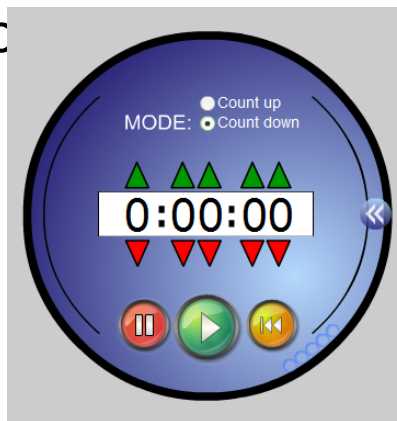
Anticipatory Guide

Complete the questions on the anticipatory guide. They will get you thinking about some of the important themes in the novel.

Thursday, January 29, 2015

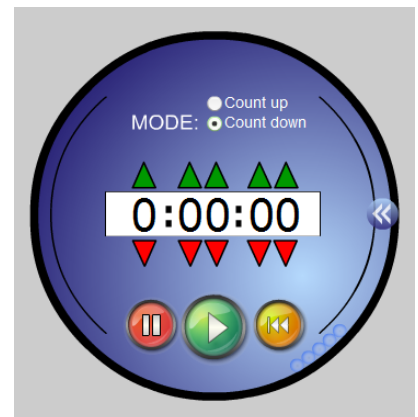
1. Book Talk: *Mrs. Mac-Indian Horse*
3. Course outline
4. Expectations
5. Anticipation Guide/discussion

Exit slip: Response to Anticipation Guide



Thursday, January 30, 2014

1. SSR: 15 mins
2. Background on The Outsiders era- 1950s/60s
3. Quickwrite: What aspect of this era do you find the most interesting? Do you see any similarities and differences from today?



**What do you know about the
late 1950s - early 1960s?**

Fashion

Politics

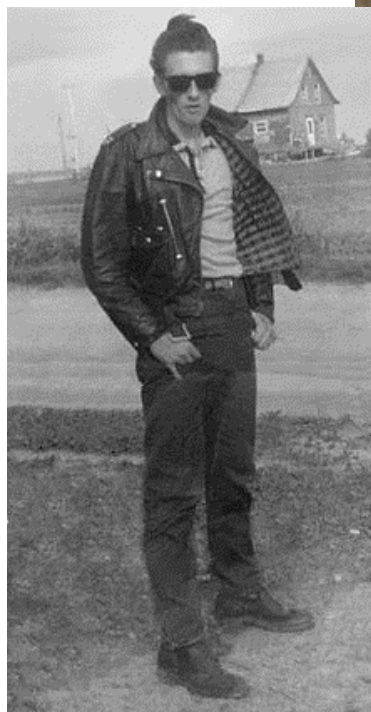
Vehicles

Music

Family life

Gender roles

FASHION





CARS



Music

Montage of 50s music



Montage 2



Rockabilly



Subculture

A group that tries to separate itself from the larger culture.
-against the mainstream

Characteristics:

- negative attitudes towards work
- disregard of class (upper, lower, middle)
- territory rather than property ("hood," "the street")
- their social group is their family
- similar fashion style and taste in music

Examples of subcultures in history: jazz, goth, punk, hip hop, rave

Greasers' Subculture

- Background

- subculture of Greasers



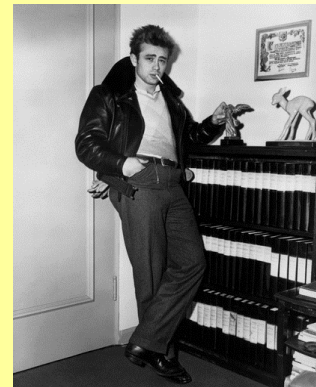
-**Greasers** were a predominately white ethnic youth subculture that originated in the 1950s among young northeastern and southern United States street gangs. The style and subculture then became popular among other types of people, as an expression of rebellion.

-In the 1950s and early 1960s, these youths were known as *hoods*. The name *greaser* came from their greased-back hairstyle, which involved combing back hair with wax, gel, creams, tonics or pomade.

-American greasers were known more for their love of hot rod cars, not necessarily motorcycles, although both subcultures are known to be fans of classic motorcycles, as well as being fans of rockabilly music.

What would attract teenagers of the 1950s to this particular subculture?

- James Dean



Friendship is often revealed more through challenging times than through happy times.

Humans cannot live and grow without experiencing a full range of emotions.

An author's use of language, story elements and literary devices contributes to the reader's understanding of the stories.

People can and do make judgments all the time, but they have to be able to justify them in order to have credibility.

Personal responses to literature need to be presented in an organized and thought out way.

Essential Questions for The Outsiders

How do circumstances impact a person's decisions and actions?

How is the story about me? What does it mean to be an insider or an outsider?
Can you be an outsider even if you are part of a larger group?

How do socioeconomic differences create unnecessary barriers between people?

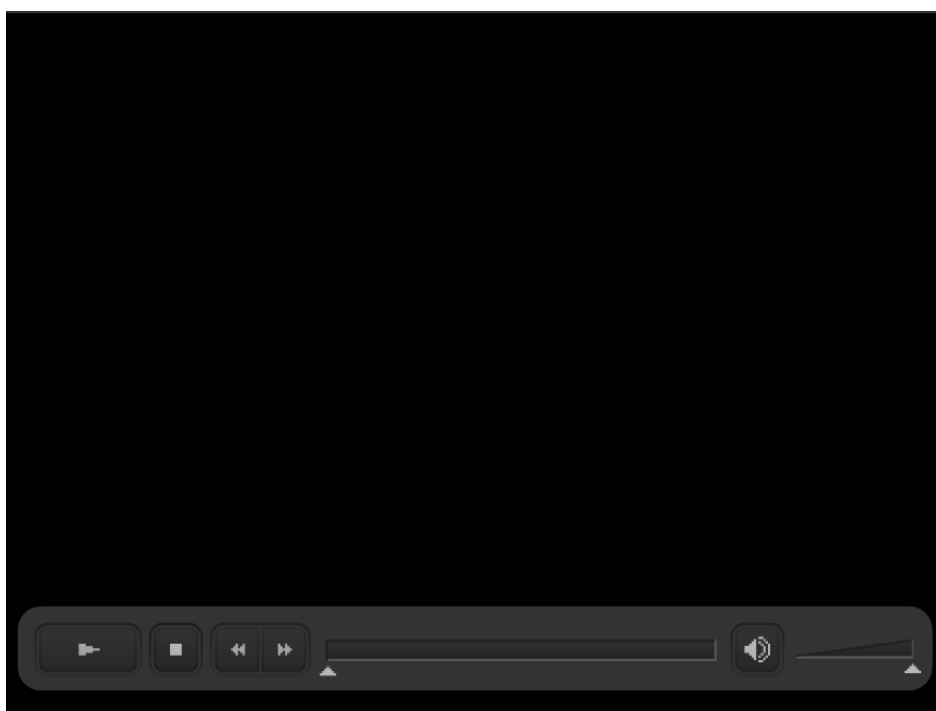
What are the characteristics or elements that cause a piece of literature to endure?

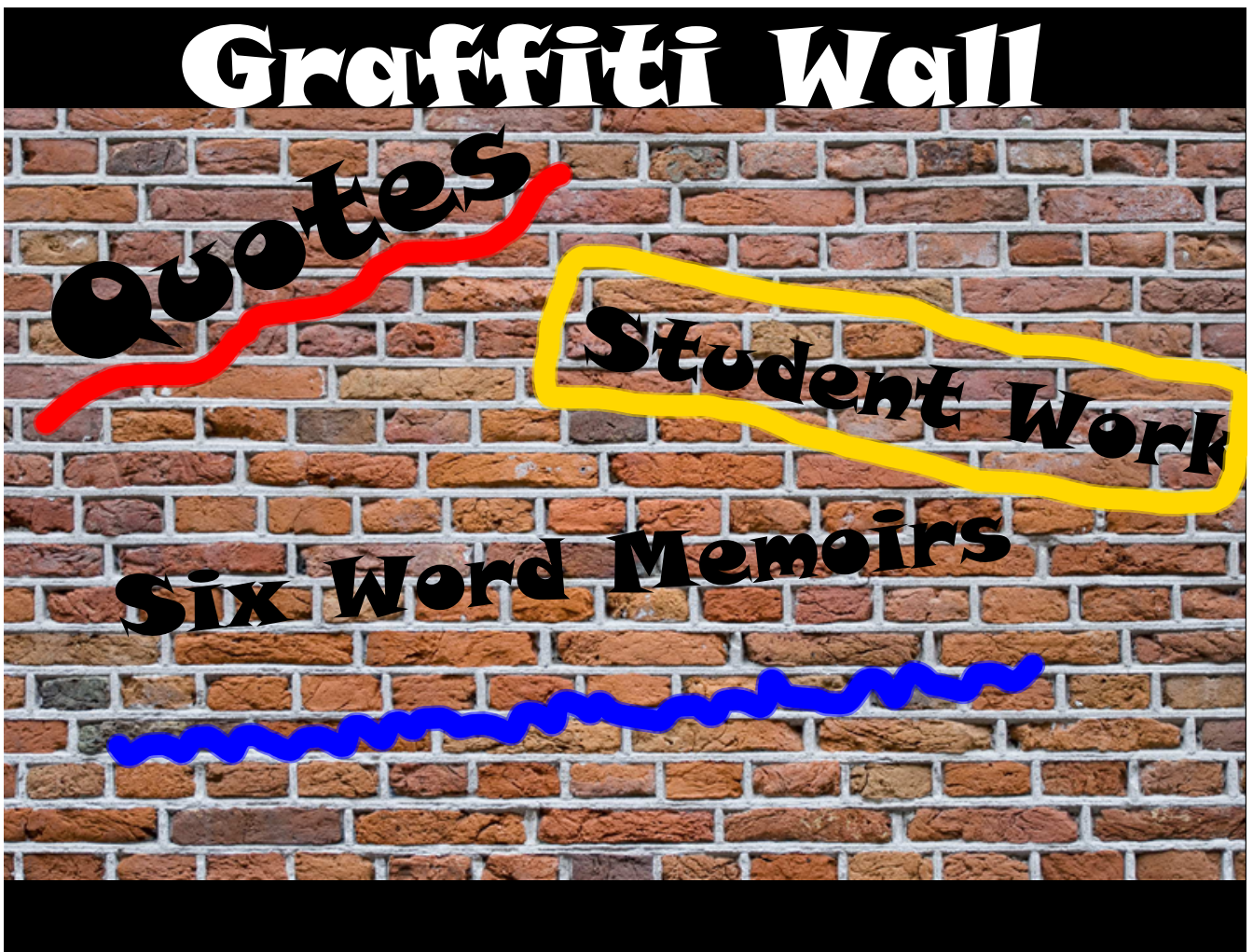
In a culture where we are bombarded with other people trying to define us, how do we make decisions for ourselves?

How can I share my feelings and opinions about something and justify them at the same time?

To what extent does the author's use of literary devices enhance understanding?

How do I organize and arrange my thoughts about something in an organized way?





Chapter 1

JAN 30, 2015

- 1. Essential questions*
- 2. Read Chapter 1*
- 3. Whole class discussion*
- 4. Reading with Focus*



Reading with Focus

When completing novel studies in high school, you will be asked to track specific elements of the novel when you read.

Our reading focus for *The Outsiders* will be **character traits**.

As you move through the novel, you will use a graphic organizer to record things that you notice about each of the major characters (physical appearance, quotations said by the character or about the character, actions, etc.)

At the end of the unit, you will complete a character analysis in essay format, using quotations from the novel to support your writing.

Reading Strategy: When trying to understand characters in fiction, inferencing skills are an essential tool.

Inference=the reasoning involved in drawing a conclusion or making a logical judgment on the basis of circumstantial evidence and prior conclusions rather than on the basis of direct observation.

(Example, Ponyboy thinks that Darry is hard and uncaring. Is there any evidence--from reading between the lines--that shows that Darry indeed does care?)

Physical Appearance

Ponyboy Curtis

pg. 1: "I have light brown, almost -red hair and greenish-gray eyes."

pg. 1: longer hair,

pg. 4: "I'm kind of small for fourteen..."

14 years old

Characteristics

pg. 4 very smart in school

pg. 4: Doesn't have a lot of street smarts

pg. 13 Has a complicated relationship with Darry

Darrell (Darry) Curtis
pg. 13 has a complicated
relationship with Ponyboy

pg. 13 responsible

Ponyboy Curtis

Johnny Cade

Darrell (Darry) Curtis

Sodapop Curtis

(Keith) Two-bit Mathews

Steve Randell

Dallas (Dally) Winston

Sodapop Curtis

handsome

in love

pg. 13 & 16 peacemaker in the family

pg. 16 he thinks he's dumb

very likeable

athletic

Monday, February 2, 2015

"We deserve a lot of our trouble"? (16)

Chapter 1 & 2



1. Quick write: Respond to this quote either in terms of the novel or through your personal experience
2. Graphic organizer for characters
2. Read Ch. 2
- 3 (Homework): Begin filling in the character tracking sheet
How do the greasers and the Socs differ? (Entry slip)

3. Fill in your character charts with information from chapter 2. Finish for homework.

Tuesday February 3, 2015



"Things are rough all over."

1. Quickwrite: Quote
2. Slang in novel
3. Read Chapter 3
4. Work on character charts



Quick Write:



"Things are rough all over."

Quote Alert!

A large red arrow with a black outline, pointing to the left towards the quote.

In chapter 2, Ponyboy and Cherry's discussion reveals that, despite different methods of coping, Socs *and* greasers must deal with difficulties. What are the difficulties that you deal with in your life? Do you agree with Cherry? Explain

Slang Vocab- Graffiti Wall

The Fuzz (The Police) [redacted]

Dig (OK) [redacted]

Heater [redacted]

Lone it [redacted]

Broad [redacted]

Lift (Steal) [redacted]

Tuff [redacted]

Hacked off [redacted]

A weed [redacted]

Hood [redacted]

What are the 2015 equivalent slang words? Are there any slang terms that are particular to Miramichi?

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

1. Quickwrite: Quote

2. 6 word memoirs: Six Word Memoirs: Create 6 word memoirs centered around the characters, plot or themes from *The Outsiders*. As we continue the novel and more is revealed, we will create more.

3. Critical questions 1-3 (due Friday)



"Darry thought I was just another mouth to feed and somebody to holler at." Ponyboy (p. 18)

Quick Write:

"Darry thought I was just another mouth to feed and somebody to holler at." Ponyboy (p. 18)

Do you think Ponyboy is being fair when he talks about his brother, Darry?

6 Word Memoirs



Character	Trait	Supporting Quote p. #
Ponyboy		

Thursday, February 5, 2015

1. Quickwrite: Pre reading activity for Chapter 4

2. Read Ch. 4

3. Work on chart

Homework: Critical questions



Chapter 4 Pre-reading Activity - Word Scramble

The following words are taken from chapter four. Based on these words, make a prediction about what you think will happen in the chapter. Write your prediction down in your writers notebook.

electric chair

church

crouched

red haze

Mustang

gun

trembling

train





Friday, February 6, 2015

1. Quickwrite: "Eyes are the windows to the soul."
2. Motif: eyes
3. Read chapter 5

Pass in critical questions

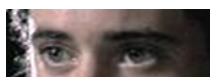
Finish chapter 5 and work on character chart

Quick Write:

There is an old English proverb that says, "The eyes are the window of the soul."

Explain what this expression means to you.





"He's got eyes that are like 2 pieces of pale blue-green ice. They've got a determined set to them, like the rest of him."



Example of a motif in *The Outsiders: Eye shape and colour*

"...Darry's eyes are his own. He's got eyes that are like two pieces of pale blue-green ice. They've got a determined set to them." - p.6

"His eyes are dark brown --lively, dancing, recklessly laughing eyes that can be gentle and sympathetic one moment and blazing with anger the next." - p.8 referencing Sodapop.

"He had gray eyes and a wide grin..." - p.9 referencing Two Bit

"His eyes were blue, blazing ice, cold with a hatred of the whole world." - p.10 referencing Dally .

"He had big black eyes in a dark tanned face...He had a nervous, suspicious look in his eyes" - p.11 referencing Johnny.

What is the importance of this motif to the story?

Monday, Feb. 9, 2015

1. Check in quiz Chapter 5

2. Eye Motif activity



**3. Quick write: Johnny's Defense:
If you were a lawyer defending Johnny, what
would you use as your main defense?**

Tuesday, February 10th

1. Read Ch. 6
2. Critical questions for 4-6 (Due Friday)
3. Work on charts

Wednesday February 11, 2014

1. Symbolism Activity (Mystery Envelopes)
2. Begin reading chapter 7

Symbolism

Symbols are objects, characters, figures, and colours used to represent ideas or concepts. When an author wants to suggest a certain mood or emotion, he can also use symbolism to hint at it, rather than just blatantly saying it.



Examples:

dove symbolizes peace/hope

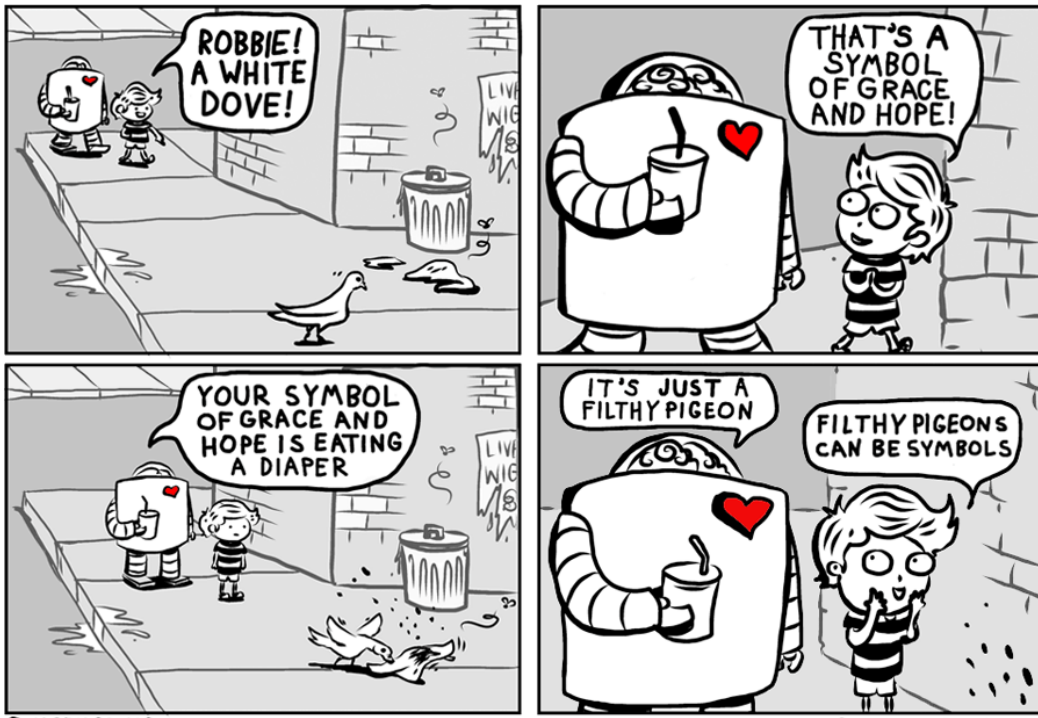
ring symbolizes marriage

name brand clothing representing social status

water symbolizes birth

Symbolism in colours - black symbolizes death

red symbolizes passion



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Symbolism in The Outsiders - complete the chart in your notes

Symbol	What it Represents	Reasons why
1. Two-Bit's Switchblade 2. Cars	Disregard for authority	The switchblade is stolen and comes with the potential of hurting someone.
3. Bob's Rings	Socs power and Greasers vulnerability	
4. Ponyboy's hair		

POETRY ANALYSIS

**"Nothing Gold Can Stay"
Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.**

With a partner, discuss the meaning of this poem, found in chapter five (pg.77). Complete the graphic organizer given to you for poetry analysis.

Quick Write:

Imagine that cell phones existed in our novel. Create a text message conversation that might occur between Ponyboy and Sodapop at this point in the novel.



"Maybe we couldn't have Corvairs or madras shirts, but we could have hair."

Greaser hair is an example of symbolism in the novel. The greasers cannot afford the rings or cars that the Socs enjoy, so they must resort to more affordable markers of identity. By wearing their hair in a specific style, greasers distinguish themselves from other social groups. When the Socs jump Ponyboy at the beginning of the novel, they ask him if he wants a haircut and threaten to cut his hair. By doing so, they would rob him of his identity.

For your quick write, reflect on what part of your identity you are most proud of.

Quotation Identification

One of the tasks you are often asked to perform on tests and exams is quotation identification. The teacher will give a number of quotations and for each, you must state the:

1. **speaker**
2. **meaning**
3. **significance** (why it is important to the whole story)

It is essential that you answer ALL three of these in your response. Also, your response **MUST** be written in paragraph form.



What kinds of details can we include for this?

Example:

“Things are rough all over.”

Sample Response from last year:

Cherry says this to Ponyboy when they are discussing the differences between the Socs and the Greasers. Cherry means that although the Socs look like they "have it made", they have their own problems, too. This quote is significant because it shows Ponyboy and the reader that Socs *and* Greasers have difficulties, and that the two groups may not be so different at all.

Chapter 6 & 7

- 1. Whole-class discussion*
- 2. Quotation Analysis - chapters 4-6*
- 3. Add to character charts*



Chapter 7 Quiz

1. Who comes to the hospital to speak to Ponyboy?
2. Why were they so snap happy with Sodapop and Darry?
3. What condition is Dally in? Johnny?
4. What is the headline of the article in the paper the next day?
5. What do Cherry and Marcia say in the article?
6. What may Johnny be charged with?
7. What are the greasers planning before the rumble.
8. Explain the conversation with Twobit, Randy, David and Ponyboy.



Article of the Month - Teen Gang Violence

Gang Violence in Chicago





"That was what he wanted. For somebody to tell him 'No.' To have somebody lay down the law, set the limits, give him something solid to stand on. That's what we all want, really."

Quote Alert!

Do you agree that young people really want to have someone set rules and limits for them?

These guiding questions may help:

- Do you like knowing what you can and can't do?
- Would you prefer to set your own limits, or to have no limits at all?
- At what age do you think kids should be allowed to make their own rules?



Chapter 9:

How is the rumble ironic?

Remember that irony is the contrast between what happens and what was expected (or what would seem appropriate).

1. the rumble is a social event - the greasers prepare for it as if preparing for a high school dance (they bathe, do their hair, and dress carefully)
2. victory does not thrill the greasers as they thought it would - the Socs retreat, but the greasers do not cheer. When Darry announces their victory, his voice is tired, not celebratory.
3. nothing has improved for the greasers as a result of the victory

Defense
Friend
Choice

The Outsiders and The Fray "How to Save a Life"

Save
Wrong
Right
Lost

First playing of song: Circle the words as they are sung in "How to Save a Life"

Second playing of song: Focus on what parts of the song are like the events in *The Outsiders*.

Example: Keyword "save."

Dally feels guilty of Johnny's death because Dally believes he could have saved Johnny if he had only made Johnny more tough; Johnny wouldn't have gone into the burning church to save the kids if he was rough like Dally.

Which character from *The Outsiders* reminds you of the singer? Of the singer's friend?

What parts of the song are similar to the book? Different?

What did the singer do for his friend that Ponyboy or the other Greasers could have done for Dally?

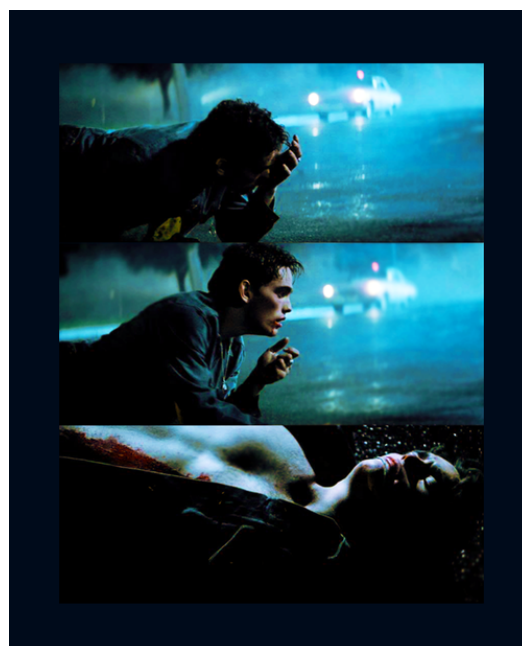
Prediction:

Have students make a prediction on how the book will end. Will Ponyboy's family help him get through this crisis? Will the Curtis' get to stay together? Can Ponyboy stay gold?

Quick Write:

★ "He died gallant."

Reread page 154 where Ponyboy describes Dally's death. In your quick write, discuss whether or not you believe that "Dally died gallant".



"Stay Gold, Ponyboy!"

38-55 Stay Gold



Quick Write:

Listen to the song, "Stay Gold", by Stevie Wonder.
Explain how this could have been written by Ponyboy
many years after the death of Johnny and his experiences
with his greaser "family".

Attachments

character study.pdf

peer-relationships-opinionaire-1.doc

outsiders-response-journal-activities.doc

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38-55 Stay Gold.mp3

Inquiry Unit Plan.pdf

Stay Gold.docx

Motif in The Outsiders.docx

characterization.docx



Six Word Memoir

Formal Essay Outsiders.docx



How to Save a Life.url

Chapter 7 Check in Quiz.docx

Performance Products for The Outsiders.doc