STUDY GUIDE

*Complete the questions as you read and study the novel. You will increase your understanding, and have a valuable tool for test review.*

**Chapter 1**

1. Who is the narrator of *The Outsiders?*
2. What two groups of teenagers does Ponyboy describe? Compare the two groups.
3. Why did the Socs beat up Ponyboy?
4. Why did Ponyboy have a hard time with his oldest brother?
5. How are Ponyboy and his friends like you? Are they different from you? In what ways?
6. Why do you think the author uses non-standard English?

**Chapter 2**

1. Where do the Socs and Greasers hang out? What do they do for fun?
2. How do the Greasers learn more about the Socs?
3. What kind of rules do gang members follow in fights?
4. How could Cherry be a problem for Dally?

**Chapter 3**

1. Why do you think Ponyboy and Cherry become good friends?
2. Do the characters in this book seem "real"? Why or why not? How does the author try to make them believable?
3. Why did Cherry and Marcia leave their dates?
4. Why do you think Darry hit Ponyboy?

**Chapter 4**

1. Who (Greasers or Socs) do you think was wrong in the situation in this chapter? Why?
2. If you had been one of the Socs how would you have felt after Bob was stabbed? If you had been one of the Greasers, how would you have felt after Bob was stabbed? What would cause the difference?
3. Why did Ponyboy turn to Dally for help?

**Chapter 5**

1. Do you think hiding out was the best thing for Johnny and Ponyboy to do? Why or why not?
2. What did Johnny admire about Dally?
3. Why did the boys cut their hair? Does the length of hair mean much to the boys? Is it important to you?

**Chapter 6**

1. Why do you think Cherry chose to associate with-and later help-Johnny and Ponyboy? Is she a spy?
2. Why do you think Johnny decided they should turn themselves in?
3. What did Ponyboy learn about Darry?

**Chapter 7**

1. How were the boys injured? Why could they be considered heroes?
2. What additional problem did the brothers face after Ponyboy's return?
3. What did Randy say kids want from parents? Do you agree or would you add some other points?

**Chapter 8**

1. Why did Ponyboy and Two-Bit think they couldn't get along without Johnny?
2. How did Johnny feel about dying?
3. What did Johnny want the boys to get for him in the hospital? Why were these things important?

**Chapter 9**

1. What were the reasons that the various boys gave for fighting?
2. Why did Dally take Ponyboy to see Johnny after the rumble?
3. What did Johnny mean when he told Ponyboy to "stay gold"?

**Chapter 10**

1. Do you think the rumble was worth the trouble?
2. Why did Dally want to die?
3. How do you think the other Greasers will end up?

**Chapter 11**

1. Why do you think Ponyboy was ill?
2. Why did Randy come to visit Ponyboy when he was ill? Why did Ponyboy not care that Randy was seeing his house in a messy condition?
3. Why do you think Ponyboy said he'd killed Bob and that Johnny wasn't dead?)

**Chapter 12**

1. Why was the court hearing important? What were possible decisions of the court?
2. Why do you think Ponyboy's life was still troubled after the court hearing?
3. What message did Johnny leave in the book?

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C:\Users\mmccoy\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\DZJUX66H\MC900056442[1].wmfPONYBOY'S WORLD

Ponyboy, the narrator of *The Outsiders,* explains what life is like for teenagers in his world. You may be able to draw parallels between Ponyboy's world and your own. Think about each item on the left. Then describe a related situation or event from your own world on the right.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ponyboy's World**  Greasers can't walk alone too much or they'll get jumped. | **My World** |
| When you grow up in a tight-knit neighbourhood like ours you get to know each other real well. |  |
| Soda can get drunk in a drag race or dancing without ever getting near alcohol. He gets drunk on just plain living. |  |
| Organized gangs are rarities-there are just small bunches of friends who stick together. |  |
| They were the only kind of girls that would look at us, I thought. Tough, loud girls who wore too much eye makeup and giggled and swore too much. |  |
| Two-Bit-he doesn't really want or need half the things he swipes from stores. He thinks it's fun to swipe everything that isn't nailed down. |  |
| Sodapop and Steve get into drag races and fights so much-both of them have too much energy, too much feeling, with no way to blow it off. |  |
| When you're a gang, you stick up for the members. |  |