



THE OUTSIDERS: GREASERS VS. SOCS



Use details and quotes from the novel to complete the chart below. Then, write 2–3 paragraphs comparing and contrasting the greasers and the Socs.

Differences	
<p>According to the text, how are the greasers and the Socs different? What makes each group distinct? Consider physical characteristics, backgrounds, behaviors, and values.</p>	
Greasers	Socs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poorer kids from the east side of town • “steal things and drive old souped-up cars and hold up gas stations and have a gang fight once in a while” • Considered troublemakers and outcasts by society • Wear their hair long, dress in blue jeans and T-shirts, leave their shirrtails out, wear leather jackets and tennis shoes or boots • Try to be tough/”tuff” • Mostly from broken homes and families • Close-knit group of friends, extremely loyal • More emotional • Fight because they have to or to blow off steam, believe in fighting fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richer kids from the west side of town • “jump greasers and wreck houses and throw beer blasts for kicks” • “get editorials in the paper for being a public disgrace one day and an asset to society the next” • Keep their hair shorter, wear madras shirts • More stable home lives, more privileges • “Sophisticated—cool to the point of not feeling anything. Nothing is real with us.” • Shallow relationships, more like a “rat race” • “We’re always searching for something to satisfy us, and never finding it.” • Fight because they’re bored, more likely to fight “rough”
Similarities	
<p>According to the text, how are the greasers and the Socs alike? What do members of each group have in common? Consider physical characteristics, backgrounds, behaviors, and values.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both groups of teenagers/young adults trying to navigate growing up • Try to solve problems with violence/rumbles and have a general disregard for the law • Have lost people they care about to violence • Have outside expectations and reputations that they’re trying to live up to 	