



# THE OUTSIDERS: POST-READING RESPONSE PROMPTS



After you finish reading *The Outsiders*, choose five of the following prompts to respond to.

A.	What does it mean to be a hero? Choose a character from the story who you think is a hero and explain what makes that person a hero. Support your response with reasons and examples from the text.
B.	How are the teenage characters in the story similar to teenagers today? What character do you relate to most and why? Support your ideas with details from the text.
C.	Relationships change over time. How does Ponyboy's relationship with Darry change over the course of the novel? Support your response with ideas and details from the text.
D.	Several characters in the novel experience loss. Choose one character who has lost someone important to them. How is the character affected by loss? How does grief affect the character's relationships with others? Support your response with ideas and details from the text.
E.	Ponyboy decides to write his theme about the experience of being a greaser. He does this with the hope that it will help others better understand teens like him and the hardships they face. Based on events in the book, do you think sharing experiences is an effective way to build understanding? Support your response with evidence from the text.
F.	How would you describe Ponyboy's gang? How do members of the gang have both a positive and negative effect on each other? Support your response with ideas and details from the text.
G.	Give an example of a character in <i>The Outsiders</i> who experiences significant personal growth. Based on events in the book, what do you think drives people to make a major change in their lives? Support your response with ideas and details from the text.
H.	Think about the behavior and attitudes of the young men in <i>The Outsiders</i> . What does the novel suggest about masculinity? Support your response with ideas and details from the text.
I.	Choose a quote from the novel that made an impact on you. Describe the context of the quote and its significance. Then explain why the quote affected you.
J.	S.E. Hinton chose to tell <i>The Outsiders</i> in the first person, from Ponyboy's point of view. Explain whether you think this was a good choice, and why or why not.