The Outsiders

Summer Reading 9

Name-_____

Characterization: As you read, fill in details about the characters. Provide two statements about each character.

Greasers	Socs
Ponyboy Curtis	Cherry Valance
Darry Curtis	Marcia
Sodapop Curtis	Randy Adderson
Dallas "Dally" Winston	Bob Sheldon
Johnny Cade	Paul Holden
Two-Bit Matthews	
Steve Randle	

Vocabulary: Define the terms using merriamwebster.com

Term/Part of Speech	Definition
bleak	
cur	
quaver	
contemptuous	
ruefully	
leery	
taut	
sullenly	
liable	
stupor	
doggedly	
lope	
ornery	
imploringly	

Vocabulary: Using the terms above, construct a paragraph using six of the terms contextually. The meaning of the term should be evident based on the context you have created.

Pre-reading response: The term "outsiders" implies someone on the outside, someone who doesn't fit in. Before reading, is it fair to leave people out based on social status or appearance? Even if you say that excluding people is wrong, do you see people who are often left out? Is there a way for society to stop creating "outsiders"? Explain your answers.

Chapters 1-2: Ponyboy has some strong opinions about Greasers and Socs. Write a paragraph from Ponyboy's perspective explaining the differences he perceives between Greasers and Socs.. Use examples from the text to solidify your response.

Close Reading: Annotate the selection below in the margins (Hinton 43)

"It ain't fair!" I cried passionately. "It ain't fair that we have all the rough breaks!" I didn't know exactly what I meant, but I was thinking about Johnny's father being a drunk and his mother a selfish slob, and Two-Bit's mother being a barmaid to support him and his kid sister after their father ran out on them, and Dally--- wild, cunning Dally--turning into a hoodlum because he'd die if he didn't, and Steve--- his hatred for his father coming out in his soft, bitter voice and the violence of his temper. Sodapop... a dropout so he could get a job and keep me in school, and Darry, getting old before his time trying to run a family and hold on to two jobs and never having any fun--- while the Socs had so much spare time and money that they jumped us and each other for kicks, had beer blasts and river-bottom parties because they didn't know what else to do. Things were rough all over, all right. All over the East Side. It just didn't seem right to me. "I know," Two-Bit said with a good-natured grin, "the chips are always down when it's our turn, but that's the way things are. Like it or lump it."

Earlier in the novel, Ponyboy talks about how Greasers get all the bad breaks. Write a paragraph to explain how the events in this chapter support that thinking.

Post Reading Analysis: Several of the characters 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 relationship with others? Support your response with details from the story.