

*The Outsiders*  
**Comprehension and Discussion Questions**  
Chapters 1-2

Answer the following questions in complete sentence form. Give examples from the text to support your responses. Responses should also include vocabulary words from chapters 1-2.

1. Describe the characteristics that made Ponyboy unique among his friends. What makes him different from the other members of the Greasers?

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2. Compare and contrast the Socs and the Greasers.

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3. Why did the Greasers resent the Socs? Explain in detail. Use evidence from text.

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4. Explain some of the reasons for the tension between Ponyboy and Darry.

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5. What metaphor did S.E. Hinton use to describe Johnny? Explain the meaning behind the metaphor.

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6. What caused Dally to stare at Johnny in disbelief? Why was Dally's response unusual for him?

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7. Explain why Two-Bit's trick on Johnny was especially cruel.

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8. Describe the argument about Socs and Greasers between Cherry and Ponyboy. How do Cherry and Ponyboy defend their respective social groups?

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9. What reactions did the Greasers have to Johnny's jumping by the Socs? Why did the jumping affect Johnny worse than his father's beatings?

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10. In your opinion, should the Greasers retaliate against the Socs for what they did to both Ponyboy and Johnny? Explain why or why not. How can the Socs and Greasers resolve their conflicts?

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