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## **THE OUTSIDERS**

### **COMPREHENSION CHECK QUESTIONS: CHAPTERS 4, 5 AND 6**

#### ***ANSWER KEY***

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

##### **1. WHAT HAPPENS TO PONYBOY AT THE PARK?**

Five drunken Socs in a Mustang come into Greaser territory looking for the guys who “picked up our girls.” A Soc named David shoves Pony’s head into the fountain, nearly drowning him.

##### **2. WHY DOES JOHNNY GO AFTER BOB? WHAT IS THE RESULT?**

Johnny goes after Bob because he is the one who had beaten him up before, and because they had a blade and were going to go after him like they did before. Johnny stabs and kills him.

##### **3. WHY DOES JOHNNY REACT SO VIOLENTLY TO THE SOCS?**

He is afraid for his life; they have tried it before and are out to get him.

##### **4. TO WHOM DO PONYBOY AND JOHNNY GO FOR HELP? WHAT DOES HE GIVE THEM? WHAT DOES HE TELL THEM TO DO?**

They go to Dally for help; he gives them a gun and some money

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#### **ANSWER KEY**

#### **5. HOW DO THE BOYS GET TO WHERE THEY ARE GOING? WHERE ARE THEY GOING TO STAY?**

They hop the freight to Windrixville and go to stay at the old abandoned church at the top of Jay Mountain.

#### **6. INTERPRET WHAT PONYBOY MEANS WHEN HE SAYS, “THINGS ARE HAPPENING TOO QUICK, TOO FAST.” DO YOU EVER GET A SIMILAR FEELING IN YOUR OWN LIFE? EXPLAIN.**

One day everything seemed so —normal|| and all of a sudden, the whole world has crumbled down around them. *Similar feelings will vary.*

#### **7. WHY DO YOU THINK THE AUTHOR INCLUDED THE FLASHBACK TO WHEN ALL THE GUYS WENT TO CHURCH TOGETHER? DO YOU THINK IT WAS IMPORTANT TO INCLUDE THAT SCENE? WHY?**

*Answers will vary. Sample student answer is given.*

The author may be trying to give more insight into the boys' personalities. I don't think it helped me —get|| that scene, because I could envision what was going on, but it did give me insight into the boys' personalities.

#### **8. MAKE A PREDICTION ABOUT PONYBOY'S “PREMONITION.” HOW COULD THIS BE A HINT OF SOMETHING THAT IS BEING FORESHADOWED?**

*Answers will vary. Sample student answer is given.*

I think this is foreshadowing that something bad is going to happen inside the church. It might have something to do with being cold.

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## **THE OUTSIDERS**

### **COMPREHENSION CHECK QUESTIONS: CHAPTERS 4, 5 AND 6**

#### ***ANSWER KEY***

#### **CHAPTER 5**

##### **1. WHEN PONY WAKES UP, WHY IS HE ALONE? WHAT DOES JOHNNY BRING BACK?**

Johnny has gone to get food and supplies for their stay. He brings baloney, bread, matches, a copy of *Gone with the Wind*, peroxide, deck of cards

##### **2. WHAT DO THE BOYS DO TO DISGUISE THEMSELVES? WHY IS PONY SO RELUCTANT TO DO ANYTHING WITH HIS HAIR?**

They cut their hair and bleach Pony's. His hair is his pride and joy. It is his trademark, and the one thing he can be proud of.

##### **3. HOW DID THE BOYS SHOW THEIR FEELINGS AS EMOTION OVERCAME THEM? DO YOU THINK THEIR BEHAVIOR WAS "IN CHARACTER" OR DID IT DEVIATE FROM THE IMAGE THE WRITER WAS TRYING TO CREATE? EXPLAIN.**

They both cried. *Evaluations will vary. Sample answer:* I think she wants us to know that Pony and Johnny are real people and not hardened criminals, so having them cry helps to create that image.

##### **4. HOW DO THEY PASS THE TIME OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS? WHAT DO THEY EAT?**

Reading *Gone with the Wind*, smoking, talking, talking about a poem, eating baloney

##### **5. WHY DOES PONYBOY GET SICK ON THE FIFTH DAY AT THE CHURCH?**

He had smoked two packs of Camels and hadn't been eating right.

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**THE OUTSIDERS**  
**COMPREHENSION CHECK QUESTIONS: CHAPTERS 4, 5 AND 6**  
**ANSWER KEY**

**6. WHAT DOES DALLY BRING TO PONYBOY FROM SODAPOP? WHAT DOES PONY LEARN FROM IT ABOUT DARRY'S FEELINGS?**

a letter; Darry had hit him because they were scared for him and he was sorry he did it; Darry is really worried about him, not knowing where he is

**7. HOW DID DALLY MISLEAD THE POLICE?**

He told them that they were heading for Texas

**8. WHERE DO THEY GO IN BUCK'S CAR?**

They go to the Dairy Queen and gorge themselves.

**9. WHEN DALLY SAYS THAT HIS HEATER "SURE DOES HELP A BLUFF..." WHAT DOES HE MEAN?**

People don't know it isn't loaded or that he doesn't intend to use it, so they back off and are afraid of him when he carries it

**10. WHO IS THE "SPY" DALLY SPEAKS OF?**

Cherry Valance

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## **THE OUTSIDERS**

### **COMPREHENSION CHECK QUESTIONS: CHAPTERS 4, 5 AND 6**

#### ***ANSWER KEY***

#### **CHAPTER SIX**

**1. "THE SPY" THINKS THE WHOLE MESS WAS HER FAULT. DALLY AGREES THAT IT IS. THINKING BACK ON THE STORY, DO YOU BELIEVE THE TROUBLE THEY ARE ALL IN IS BECAUSE OF HER? EXPLAIN.**

*Answers will vary; sample answer:* I don't think she has much at all to do with the mess they are in. They have to be responsible for their own actions. Plus, she has a right to talk to whoever she wants to without —some guy|| telling her what to do and fighting over her.

**2. WHAT DOES JOHNNY ANNOUNCE THAT HE AND PONY ARE GOING TO DO? WHY DOES HE THINK IT IS BEST?**

He wants to turn himself in and Pony agrees. Johnny has a good chance of being let off easy because he has no police record and it was self-defense.

**3. WHAT DOES DALLY TELL JOHNNY WHEN HE ASKS ABOUT HIS PARENTS? HOW DOES JOHNNY REACT? HOW IS HIS REACTION DIFFERENT FROM HOW DALLY WOULD REACT?**

He tells him that his parents hadn't asked about him, but, —Shoot, my old man don't give a hang whether I'm in jail or dead in a car

**4. WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE CHURCH WHEN THEY RETURN? DESCRIBE WHAT THEY DO ABOUT IT.**

The church is on fire and there are kids in there. They jump in through windows and rescue the ones inside.

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## **THE OUTSIDERS**

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#### ***ANSWER KEY***

#### **5. WHAT HAPPENS TO PONYBOY AND JOHNNY BECAUSE OF THEIR ACTIONS?**

They are taken to the hospital and hailed as heroes.

#### **6. WHY DOES DALLY CLUB PONY ACROSS THE BACK?**

He is on fire and he is trying to stop the flames.

#### **7. WHERE ARE THEY HEADED WHEN PONY WAKES UP? WHERE ARE JOHNNY AND DALLAS? DESCRIBE EACH OF THE BOYS' INJURIES.**

To the hospital; in the other ambulance; Pony was burned and suffered from smoke inhalation and shock; Dally had a burned arm; Johnny had been hit across the back by a piece of timber and might have a broken back, and was burned pretty badly

#### **8. HOW DO SODA AND DARRY REACT WHEN THEY SEE PONYBOY?**

They are truly relieved. Soda picks Ponyboy up and swings him around. Darry cries; he says to Ponyboy, —Pony, where have you been all this time?|| Pony realizes that he meant, —Pony, you've scared me to death. Please be careful, because I couldn't stand it if anything happened to you.|| Then he says, —Oh, Pony, I thought we'd lost you... like we lost Mom and Dad....||

#### **9. DESCRIBE THE CHANGE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PONYBOY AND DARRY.**

Pony wondered how he could ever have thought him hard and unfeeling. Darry shows his tender side by his words and by stroking Pony's hair. Pony knows now that everything is going to be all right.

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