

## ENGLISH IIIE

### *The Outsiders* Comprehension Questions

#### **Chapters 1-3. Answer the following questions using complete sentences.**

1. How does Ponyboy describe his brother Soda? Give four or more details.
2. How does Ponyboy describe his older brother Darrel? Give four or more details.
3. Which brother would you like best? Explain your answer in a paragraph with four or more details.
4. What does “Greaser” mean?
5. What does “Soc” mean?
6. What happened to the boys’ mom and dad?
7. When the Socs jumped Ponyboy, what were they threatening to do to him?
8. Describe Soda’s best friend, Steve Randle. Give four or more details.
9. Describe Two-Bit Mathews, the oldest of the gang. Give four or more details.
10. Describe Dallas Winston (Dally). Give four or more details.
11. Describe Johnny Cade. Give four or more details.
12. The word “tuff” means cool, sharp, like a tuff-looking car. What word do you use to describe something tuff?
13. What happened at the Nightly Double drive-in movie?
14. What did Steve find in the open field where the Greasers hand out?
15. If Dally was used to seeing people killed on the streets of New York’s West Side, why do you think he looked so sick when he saw Johnny?
16. What kind of troubles do you think Cherry was talking about when she told Ponyboy, “We have troubles you’ve never even heard of?”
17. According to Cherry, it wasn’t just the money that separated the Socs from the Greasers. Name one other reason Cherry gave for the separation.

18. Why did Two-Bit slap Ponyboy across the side of his head?
19. Why do you think Cherry told Ponyboy that she probably wouldn't speak to him if she saw him someplace?
20. Why did Darry hit Ponyboy?

**Chapters 4-6. Answer the following questions using complete sentences.**

21. What happened to Johnny and Ponyboy when they went to the park early one morning?
22. What were three things Johnny felt they needed to have before he and Ponyboy ran away?
23. What did Dally give to Johnny and Ponyboy?
24. Where did Dally tell the boys to go?
25. How did the boys find directions to Jay Mountain?
26. Why do you think that Johnny bought Ponyboy a paperback of *Gone with the Wind*?
27. What did Johnny buy at the store that would change their appearance?
28. What was the one item that Johnny bought at the store that Two-Bit, Steve, or Dally would not have thought to buy?
29. What had Dally done that made Johnny think he was gallant?
30. What did Dally bring Ponyboy when he went to the church to visit the two boys?
31. Who became the Greaser's spy?
32. Why do you think that Cherry had refused to go on a date with Dally?
33. According to Dally, were Johnny's parents worried about him?
34. Why didn't Dally want Johnny to turn himself into the police?
35. What was happening when Dally, Johnny, and Ponyboy went back to the old church?
36. What did Ponyboy and Johnny find in the back of the church?
37. Do you think it was foolish of Johnny and Ponyboy to risk their lives to save the kids? Why or why not?

38. Why did Dally hit Ponyboy across the back?
39. What was the first thing that Soda noticed about Ponyboy?
40. How did Ponyboy react to his brother Darry?

**Chapters 7-9. Answer the following questions using complete sentences.**

41. According to Jerry Wood, why did the press take so many pictures?
42. How did Ponyboy respond to the reporter when he asked Ponyboy, “What would you do right now if you could do anything you wanted?”
43. Describe what injuries Johnny sustained from rescuing the children trapped in the burning church.
44. Why did Darry always leave the front door opened?
45. What was stated in the paper that worried Ponyboy?
46. What did Steve say about Darry that led him to punch Steve in the jaw?
47. Why did Soda’s girlfriend, Sandy, move to Florida?
48. What was the one thing that Randy felt his friend Bob had needed?
49. What two things did Johnny want while he was in the hospital?
50. Why didn’t Johnny want to see his mother?
51. According to Ponyboy and Two-Bit, what or whom were keeping Darry from being a Soc?
52. Why did Ponyboy, Soda and Darry get all spruced up before the rumble?
53. According to Darry, for what reason did Soda use his head?
54. What was the only good reason for fighting according to Ponyboy?
55. Why were the greasers more likely than the Socs to be accused of mischief?
56. Why did Ponyboy think that Darry hated Paul Holden?
57. After the rumble, who went to see Johnny?

58. What did Dally tell the policeman after he pulled him over?
59. What did Johnny tell Ponyboy right before he died?
60. When Johnny died, Dally appeared very upset. What do you think he was going to do?

**Chapters 10-12. Answer the following questions using complete sentences:**

61. How did Ponyboy get home from the hospital?
62. Why do you think that Johnny's death was so hard on Dally?
63. Why do you think Dally robbed the grocery store?
64. Why did the cops shoot Dally?
65. How did Ponyboy get a concussion?
66. Ponyboy stated that Bob Sheldon's parents allowed Bob to run wild because they loved him too much or too little. Which do you think? Explain your answer.
67. Why do you think Randy came over to see Ponyboy?
68. Do you think Ponyboy would have been better off in a foster home? Explain your answer.
69. Why did the judge ask Darry and Soda if Dally had been a good friend to them?
70. Do you think Darry and Soda should have denied that Dally was their friend? Explain your answer.
71. How did Ponyboy change after Johnny's death?
72. Why did the Greasers think it was funny that they were being blamed for causing trouble in the cafeteria?
73. Why did Ponyboy want to get tough?
74. What were Darry and Ponyboy arguing about?
75. What had been bothering Soda?
76. Why did Soda dislike his brothers arguing?
77. What did Johnny mean when he told Ponyboy to "stay gold?"

78. Do you think Johnny meant it when he stated that he was willing to give his life in order to save the kids in the church? Explain your answer.
79. Johnny had it pretty tough at home, but he still believed there was good in the world. Why would a kid like Johnny believe this way?
80. What was the theme of Ponyboy's English composition?