

Study questions are to help you as you read the book. These questions will be used as the basis of discussion the first few days of school. A TEST on one of the books will be given Friday, August 10th. A TEST on the second book will be given Tuesday, August 14th.

Answer the following question. All of your work should be written, not typed. Your answers should be in complete sentences with correct spelling. You may write the questions and answers on notebook paper (not college ruled paper). Questions will be turned-in on August 9th - the first full day of class.

1. How is Ponyboy different from the other members of his gang?
2. How are the first person point of view and the Soc attack on Ponyboy effective in introducing characters and giving background information?
3. Who are the Socs?
4. How are the greasers different from the Socs?
5. Compare Ponyboy's brothers, Darry and Sodapop.
6. What evidence is there of a tension between Ponyboy and Darry?
7. Why does Ponyboy accept but dislike Steve?
8. What is Two-Bit's outstanding characteristic?

17. Why do Johnny and Ponyboy turn to Dallas for help?

18. Why is Ponyboy upset about getting his hair cut and bleached?

19. Explain why it is ironical that Johnny and Ponyboy are involved in a murder.

20. Johnny compares Dallas to a southern gentleman. Why is this ironical? How does Johnny defend his comparison?

21. Why does Johnny's remark about the sunrise remind Ponyboy of Robert Frost's poem?

22. What is Sodapop's position in Ponyboy's conflict with Darry?

23. What is Cherry's rationale for aiding the greasers?

24. Johnny informs Dallas and Ponyboy that he and Ponyboy are turning themselves in. What are Johnny's reasons?

25. Johnny and Ponyboy feel personally responsible for the safety of the children in the church. Why? Is it consistent with their characters?

26. Why was saving the children the only time in Johnny's life he didn't have a defeated, mistrustful look?

27. What function in the story does Jerry Wood serve?

28. Why does Darry's crying have such a profound effect upon Ponyboy?

29. Why does Randy decide not to participate in the rumble?

30. Ponyboy admits that he doesn't like to fight. Why then is it so important to him to participate in the rumble?

31. Cherry sees similar qualities in Bob and Dallas. What are those qualities?

32. Compare Tim Shepard's gang to Ponyboy's gang.

33. Why is it significant that Paul Holden is the Soc who steps forward to accept Darry's challenge?
34. Dallas chooses to die. Why? Why is his manner of death gallant?
35. Why won't Ponyboy believe that Johnny is dead?
36. During the hearing, what is the judge aware of that Ponyboy is not?
37. In the days following the hearing Ponyboy and Darry continue to have disagreements. Explain why Sodapop bolts from the room during a fight between Ponyboy and Darry.