**Critical Reading Questions – Chapters 1-3 *The Outsiders***

**There are three types of questions that are used in reading comprehension:**

1. **Literal –** these types of questions can be found directly in the words of the text. They do not require a lot of higher level thinking.
2. **Inferential/Interpretive-** these types of questions require you to read *behind* the words of the text to find the answer. The answer is never directly in the words of the text, but you will analyze the information in the text to help you figure out the answer. This requires you to make inferences (guesses based on what you’ve read) and to interpret (understand) the information.



1. **Personal/Critical/Evaluative-** these types of questions require you to synthesize what you’ve read and express an opinion or make a connection.

**Look for these symbols by the questions so that you know which type of question you are answering. Answer the questions in complete sentences on loose-leaf (remember the rules for answering short answer questions).**

1. Why do Ponyboy and Sodapop try hard to stay out of trouble? (3)

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1. What does Ponyboy mean when he says he doesn’t use his head, even though he’s smart and does well in school? (4)

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1. Why do the greasers continue to fight the Socs, even though, as Ponyboy says, “You can’t win against them no matter how hard you try, because they’ve got all the breaks”? (10-11)



1. Why do you think that Dally hates “the whole world”? (10-11)



1. In your opinion, why doesn’t Ponyboy really believe what Cherry says about Socs having troubles? (36)

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1. What does Ponyboy mean when he says maybe he can talk to Cherry for the same reason she can talk to him? (39)



1. According to Cherry, what is the difference between the Socs and the greasers? (38)



1. Consider the Socs and the greasers. Do you think that similar group differences exist among teenagers today? Why or why not?

**Critical Reading Questions (Adjusted) – Chapters 1-3 *The Outsiders***

**There are three types of questions that are used in reading comprehension:**

1. **Literal –** these types of questions can be found directly in the words of the text. They do not require a lot of higher level thinking.
2. **Inferential/Interpretive-** these types of questions require you to read *behind* the words of the text to find the answer. The answer is never directly in the words of the text, but you will analyze the information in the text to help you figure out the answer. This requires you to make inferences (guesses based on what you’ve read) and to interpret (understand) the information.



1. **Personal/Critical/Evaluative-** these types of questions require you to synthesize what you’ve read and express an opinion or make a connection.

**Look for these symbols by the questions so that you know which type of question you are answering. Answer the questions in complete sentences on this sheet.**

1. Why do Ponyboy and Sodapop try hard to stay out of trouble? (3)

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1. What does Ponyboy mean when he says he doesn’t use his head, even though he’s smart and does well in school? (4)

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1. In your opinion, why doesn’t Ponyboy really believe what Cherry says about Socs having troubles? (36)

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1. What are three differences between the Socs and the greasers?

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1. How is Ponyboy different from the rest of the greasers?

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1. Consider the Socs and the greasers. Do you think that similar group differences exist among teenagers today? Why or why not?

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