

A Teaching Unit For The Outsiders

S.E. Hinton



Sample Packet



ELA Core Plans

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans

A Sample Packet
For
The Outsiders

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Note: This teaching unit was produced to accompany the wonderful novel *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. The author nor publisher of *The Outsiders* was involved in the production of these lessons, and neither endorse this teaching unit.

The Outsiders Table of Contents

Chapter	Focus	<u>Partial</u> List of Common Core Standards Met in Grades 7 & 8
1	Allusion, Chapter Questions, Character Sketch	CC8L3 – Students analyze how particular lines or incidents in a story reveal aspects of a character.
2	Flashback, Conflict	Students look at how flashback reveals aspects of the character Johnny. (CCSS8L3, CC7L3) They also analyze how conflict shapes the plot and character.
3	Greasers Vs. Socs Symbolism	The differences in the Socs and the Greasers as well as the likenesses is related to one of the main themes in this novel. By looking at these differences, students are analyzing the development of the theme. (CCSS RL72, RL82) When determining symbolism in a work of literature, students are drawing inferences from the text. (CCSS RL61, RL71, RL81)
4	Respond	Students must write their thoughts, opinions, and predictions to certain passages. With this exercise, students are drawing evidence from a literary text to support analysis and reflection. (CCSSW6.9,W7.9,W8.9)
5	Setting, Poem analysis for “Nothing Gold Can Stay” Writing Opportunity	In the first exercise, students must analyze how the setting shapes the characters and plot.(CCSSRL73) In the second exercise, students analyze each line of the poem and determine the meaning and theme. (CCSSRL7.4, 8.4)
6	Foreshadowing, Epiphany Writing Opportunity	In the first exercise, students determine how foreshadowing helps shape the plot.(CCSSRL7.3, 8.3) In the second exercise, students study changes in a character, which ultimately leads to the theme. (CCSSRL6.2, 7.2, 8.2)

Test	Test on Chapters 1-6	
7	Readers' Theater Theme	Students analyze theme and how it relates to different characters. (CCSSRL6.2, 7.2, 8.2)
8	Discussion Questions	Students must determine how Johnny's life is like the poem. Here they are drawing on inferences from the text. (CCSSRL6.1, 7.1, 8.1)
9	Top Ten List	Students must think about the action in the text to create their own list. (CCSSW6.4, 7.4, 8.4)
10	Tableau Epitaph	Students must analyze the characters and setting to create a tableau. This extended thinking activity would be considered a level four on Depth of Knowledge (DOK).
11	Silent Passage Analysis	With this activity, students will analyze how particular lines propel the action, reveal character, and provoke decisions. (CCSS7.3, 8.3)
12	Meaning of Title Theme Memorable Quotes	The title is related to the theme of the novel. (CCSSRL6.2, 7.2, 8.2)
Test	Final Test	

The highlighted chapters are yours FREE. Scroll down to print.

The Outsiders

Chapter 2

A flashback occurs when a story is interrupted for a character to remember something that has happened in the past.

External Conflict – a character struggles with an outside force. It is evident early on in this book that *The Outsiders* is driven by a social class conflict.

GREASERS
POOR

VS.

SOCS
RICH

REBELIOUS

FACELESS, CRUEL

Because of the point of view of the story, we see the Socs as Ponyboy does. So far, the Socs are faceless and cruel. That is until we meet Cherry Valance. She seems sympathetic and surprises Ponyboy with some of the things that she says. What does Ponyboy, along with the reader, learn from Cherry?

In the following box, summarize the flashback involving Johnny.

Authors use flashbacks so that readers can learn about characters or about past events. What do we learn from this flashback?

What does Johnny's reaction to the fight illustrate?

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Chapter 3

At the beginning of this chapter, we see Pony boy beginning to think that there are some similarities between the Socs and the Greasers. He says, "...there was a basic sameness."(page 35)

Cherry, seems to disagree, however and sums things up by saying the following about the Socs:

- Socs are more sophisticated to the point of not feeling anything.
- Nothing is real for the Socs.
- They don't mean half of what they say.
- They are in a rat race – always going and going and searching for more.

Studying this list, what are some words that could describe the Socs? Write the words in the box below.

"That's why we're separated," I said. "It's not money, it's feeling – you don't feel anything and we feel too violently."

This is how Ponyboy sums up the differences between the Greasers and the Socs. Respond to this comment. What do you think he means?

Find another passage in this chapter that either suggests that the Greasers are different from the Socs or that shows that they are not as different as they think. Write the passage and page number in the box below.

The Outsiders
Test Chapters 1-6

1. What point of view is used in this book?
 - a. first person – Ponyboy’s point of view
 - b. first person – Dally’s point of view
 - c. third person limited
 - d. third person omniscient

2. What happened to Ponyboy’s parents?
 - a. They abandoned Ponyboy and his brothers when they were young.
 - b. They were killed in an automobile wreck.
 - c. They were arrested and taken to prison.
 - d. They left to travel the world.

3. The Greasers versus the Socs is a rivalry between _____.
 - a. country boys and city boys
 - b. different races
 - c. social classes
 - d. older and younger people

4. Which one of the Greasers is considered the gang’s pet – the favorite?
 - a. Dally
 - b. Soda Pop
 - c. Two Bit
 - d. Johnny

5. Which of the following is considered a big part of the Greaser identity?
 - a. their knives
 - b. their hair
 - c. their slang
 - d. their houses

This is only a portion of the test.

We hope you enjoyed this sample packet. Download our [complete teaching unit for *The Outsiders*](#) now and you will have all of the handouts activities, and tests listed in the table of contents. Use these lessons immediately and for years to come!

Also, check out our other resources. We have tons of resources for ELA teachers including [novel units](#), [short story lessons](#), [writing activities](#), and [Common-Core bell ringer activities](#). You can print free samples from all of these online teaching materials!

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