**Writing Prompts:** All six of these prompts should be completed by the end of the unit. Some time will be given in class to get them started, but they may have to be finished on your own time. Please do these on loose leaf and remember to revise and edit your work.

**Writing Prompt #1 - Anticipation Guide Reaction (pre-reading)**

Complete the attached anticipation guide and use the space provided to reflect on the theme of “being an outsider.”

**Writing Prompt #2 – Friends with a Character (after Chapter 2)**

S.E. Hinton provides vivid descriptions of each major character in the book. Which character would you like to have as a friend and why?

**Writing Prompt #3 – Foreshadowing (after Chapter 3)**

Foreshadowing refers to clues an author gives to suggest events that are going to happen in the story. When Ponyboy says, “Things gotta get better, I figured. They couldn’t get worse. *I was wrong*”; the reader knows trouble lies ahead. Predict what you think will happen next.

**Writing Prompt #4 – Making Connections and Analogies (after Chapter 5)**

What did Robert Frost mean in the poem, “Nothing Gold Can Stay”? Explain your answer and try to give original examples of your own.

**Writing Prompt #5 – Inferences about Complex Characters (after Chapter 6)**

In chapter 6, the story “changes” dramatically. Choose one of the following characters: Johnny, Ponyboy, Dallas or Darry and explain how these events could affect their character. In your reflection, consider such things as:

- What the character does
- How the character reacts
- How the character interacts with others
- What the character says
- The character’s outlook

**Writing Prompt #6 – Extended analogy (after Chapter 9)**

Just before Johnny died, he said, “Stay gold, Ponyboy. Stay gold.” What does it mean “to stay gold”?
Directions: Below is a series of statements. Circle the response that most closely indicates how you feel about the statement, then explain your answer using complete sentences.

1. You can tell a lot about a person by the clothes he/she wears.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

2. Being “street smart” is more important than being “book smart”.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

3. In spite of outward differences, people want the same things: love, acceptance, and respect.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

4. Sometimes murder is “justifiable” [necessary, defensible].
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

5. You can recognize intelligent people by the way they look.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

6. Teenagers everywhere face the same problems.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:

7. It’s easy to form opinions about people without getting to know them.
   - Strongly Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Agree
   - Strongly Agree
   Explain:
8. Most people pick friends who have similar interests and backgrounds.

   Strongly Disagree  Disagree  Agree  Strongly Agree

   Explain:

9. People from different groups/backgrounds are treated different in society [i.e., in school, in public, by police].

   Strongly Disagree  Disagree  Agree  Strongly Agree

   Explain:

10. Loyalty is extremely important between and among friends.

    Strongly Disagree  Disagree  Agree  Strongly Agree

    Explain:

11. You can tell a lot about a person by the friends he/she has.

    Strongly Disagree  Disagree  Agree  Strongly Agree

    Explain:

12. Everyone has felt like an outsider at one time or another.

    Strongly Disagree  Disagree  Agree  Strongly Agree

    Explain:

**Write about a time you felt like an “outsider.”**

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________
As we read the novel, *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton, review the following literary terms. Complete the questions and activities associated with these terms.

**WHO?**

**CHARACTER** is a person, animal, or being that takes part in the action of a literary work.

**PROTAGONIST** is the main character(s) in a literary work.

**ANTAGONIST** is a character(s) or force(s) in conflict with a main character (protagonist).

**POINT OF VIEW** is the perspective from which a story is told. *(Who is telling the story?)*

In the novel, *The Outsiders*, who is telling the story? __________________________

What point of view has the author chosen? __________________________

- **FIRST PERSON** is a story being told by a character that uses the first-person pronoun “I”.

- **THIRD PERSON LIMITED** is the point of view where the narrator uses third-person pronouns such as: *he, she, and they* to refer to the characters.

Highlight the words that would need to be altered to change to a different point of view. Make the necessary changes above the lines.

*I was sweating something fierce, although I was cold. I could feel my palms getting clammy and the perspiration running down my back. I get like that when I’m real scared. I glanced around for a pop bottle or a stick or something – Steve Randal, Soda’s best buddy, had once held off four guys with a busted pop bottle – but there was nothing. So I stood there like a bump on a log while they surrounded me. I don’t use my head. They walked around slowly, silently, smiling.* (p.4)
WHEN? & WHERE?

SETTING

The setting of a literary work is the **time** and **place** of the action.

The setting includes all the details of place and time:

- *the year, the time of day, the season, even the weather…*
- *the specific country, province, state, region, community, neighborhood, building, institution, room…*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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HOW?

AUTHOR’S STYLE

Style is the way in which an author uses language.

Many elements contribute to author’s style:

- *i.e., word choice, phrasing, sentence length, tone, use of dialogue, purpose, audience, literary devices*

What is “foreshadowing”? ____________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________

Give one example of foreshadowing in *The Outsiders*: _________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________

What is “flashback”? ________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________

Give one example of flashback in *The Outsiders*: ______________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________
WHAT?

PLOT is the Sequence of Events in a story. It involves both characters and conflict, and answers the question: “What happened?”

List six significant events from the story. Place these events in chronological order by numbering them: #1-6 (first to last).

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

TYPES of CONFLICT

Give one example of each type of conflict from the novel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character vs. Character</th>
<th>Character vs. Nature</th>
<th>Character vs. Society</th>
<th>Character vs. Himself / Herself</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</table>

CLIMAX is the point of greatest emotional intensity or interest in the plot. It is usually the turning point in a story.

In your opinion, what is the climax in the novel, The Outsiders? Justify your answer.

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________
The theme of a literary work is its central message, concern, or purpose. A theme can usually be expressed as a general statement about people and life.

The following themes are explored in the novel, *The Outsiders*.

- Divided Communities
- Individual Identity
- Empathy
- Preserving Childhood Innocence
- Self-Sacrifice and Honour

Choose one of these themes, and explain how the theme is developed in the novel. Be sure to support your ideas with specific examples from the novel.
Chapter _____ Group Notes

Summarizer: Go over the main points of the chapter. Feel free to bullet list!

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Vocabulary Finder: Write down 3 new vocabulary words and give their definition.

1) ____________: ____________________________________________________________

2) ____________: ____________________________________________________________

3) ____________: ____________________________________________________________

Question Writer: Record two questions from your group discussion and your answers below.

1) Question: ________________________________________________________________?
   Answer: ___________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2) Question: ________________________________________________________________?
   Answer: ___________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

Story Mapper: Draw a story map or graphic organizer below to help keep track of the story.
Chapter _____ Group Notes

Summarizer: Go over the main points of the chapter. Feel free to bullet list!

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

Vocabulary Finder: Write down 3 new vocabulary words and give their definition.
1) ______________: __________________________________________________________
2) ______________: __________________________________________________________
3) ______________: __________________________________________________________

Question Writer: Record two questions from your group discussion and your answers below.
1) Question: __________________________________________________________________?
   Answer: _____________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2) Question: __________________________________________________________________?
   Answer: _____________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

Story Mapper: Draw a story map or graphic organizer below to help keep track of the story.
During our study of *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, fill in the character chart with information about each character.

**Meet “the Greasers”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
<th>Personality Traits</th>
<th>Significant Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ponyboy Curtis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodapop Curtis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darry Curtis</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dally Winston</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Meet “the Socs”</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Physical Description</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Significant Events</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Valance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions: You will need to complete three projects by the end of this unit. Draw a circle or an X marking each project you choose. Your selections need to create “three in a row”. Each student is required to complete the center square at the end of the unit.

Choose projects that display your strengths!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wanted Poster (Johnny or Ponyboy)</th>
<th>Re-write the ending</th>
<th>Scene diorama or video</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Create a new book jacket for _The Outsiders_ (front and back) | Photo-Essay PowerPoint  
Your group will be responsible for completing this assignment at the end of our unit. | Outsiders Board game |
| 4 poems based on lessons Ponyboy learned | Heroic Newspaper Article  
(after the church event) | Timeline  
(Positive/Negative events) |

Due Date for Project #1: ________________________________

Due Date for Project #2: ________________________________

Due Date for Project #3: ________________________________
Photo-Essay PowerPoint

This project will be completed in class with your pre-assigned groups. You create a slide show depicting information about The Outsiders: characters, theme, setting, point of view, and conflict. Include pictures and words.

Wanted Poster

You will make a “Wanted” poster for either Johnny or Ponyboy. It should include:
1. Character name, picture, and physical description
2. Crimes they committed (minimum of three)
3. Short paragraph containing quote(s) from the novel that provide evidence for their crime
4. Known hang-outs, nicknames, and personality traits
5. Reward for turning this character in

Re-write the ending

Not happy with the way it all ended? In this option, you will write a different ending to the story (one that does not end with space aliens or zombies, please). This ending should be about one page in length.

Scene diorama or video

Write a script and create a video of a scene or display a scene in the form of a diorama from The Outsiders. The script should have a rough draft and a typed final draft.

Create a new book jacket for The Outsiders (front and back)

Create a new book jacket for The Outsiders novel. Draw a new picture for the front and create a new synopsis for the back. Be sure to include all aspects of a book jackets such as author, publisher symbol, price, ISBN code etc….

Outsiders Board game

Pretend you are teaching The Outsiders to a group of Jr. High students. Create a game or an activity to help these students understand the novel. You should include elements of trivia, an instruction guide, and a model of the board game.

4 Poems based on lessons Ponyboy learned

Poetry is important to Johnny and Ponyboy. Write 4 different genres of poems (acrostic, cinquain, haiku, limerick, free verse, etc…) based on situations from the book. Each poem should have a rough draft and a final copy that is neatly typed. Add decorative borders and color to spruce this project up!

Heroic Newspaper Article

Write a newspaper story about the church event and the heroic actions of the three characters. It should also include who, what, when, where, and why. First you will need to type your article, then make the newspaper page including headlines, pictures, and “side bar” information. Be sure to look at an actual newspaper article before you begin.

Timeline (Positive/Negative events)

Pick out 12 significant incidents in the book and make a timeline with the incidents. Each incident should have a two-sentence explanation of why they are significant. On the timeline, put the positive incidents towards the top and the negative incidents toward the bottom. Explain why each incident was positive or negative.