

The Petrides School Educational Excellence in the 21st Century

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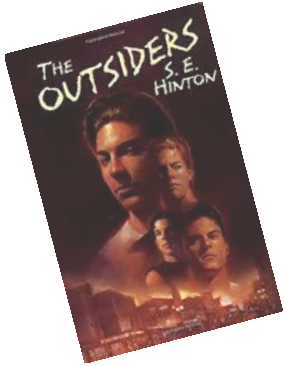
Mandatory Summer Reading Assignment Incoming Grade 8

Students are required to read one fiction novel, *The Outsiders*, and may read another book for extra credit. Attached you will find the requirements for both of these assignments.

1. The fiction novel is *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. Attached you will find the assignment and the rubric for this novel. This project must be submitted on or before September 28, 2018 to your eighth grade ELA teacher.

*This assignment will be counted towards your 1st marking period average as a "project" grade.

The Outsiders
By S.E. Hinton



I. On separate looseleaf paper, answer the following questions in **short response** form following the attached rubric.

1. Compare and contrast Ponyboy and Cherry Valance.
2. Describe Ponyboy's relationship with his brother, Darry. How did the relationship between Darry and Ponyboy change after Ponyboy ran away and after Ponyboy and Johnny turned themselves in?
3. Before Johnny died, he wrote a letter to Ponyboy explaining how his thoughts about life and about fighting had changed. What conclusions did Johnny come to before he died? Do you agree with those conclusions? Explain.
4. Why did Johnny decide that he was going to turn himself in? Do you think that this was a wise choice? Explain.

II. This novel was set during the 1960's in which many slang and cultural terms used were different from today's culture. Use context clues to explain the figurative meaning of the following terms. Write the page number, sentence, and meaning.

1. broad
2. fly
3. fuzz
4. scrap
5. rank
6. tuff
7. hot
8. lone it

III. Write **at least a 3-paragraph essay** on one of the following topics:

1. Explain why you believe each of the "main" Greasers could be considered a hero. Include your own definition of hero in the essay and be sure to explain how each boy, in his own way, meets your definition. Remember to support your ideas with examples from the novel.
2. Explain how the Socs were more of a disgrace and menace to society than the Greasers. Look at how society viewed and treated the two groups. Examine the characteristics of each group, their actions, and the choices each made. Be sure to support your ideas with examples from the novel.