The Outsiders Novel Test Study Guide

Know the definitions of the following terms and be able to identify examples from the book.

* simile
* metaphor
* hyperbole
* personification
* onomatopoeia
* alliteration

Know the following characters:

* Sodapop
* Steve
* Ponyboy
* Cherry
* Bob
* Two-Bit
* Dally
* Randy
* Darry
* Johnny
* Marcia

Be able to answer the following questions.

1. What is Two-Bit’s prized possession? Two-Bit’s prized possession is his switchblade that he swiped from a store. Dally asks to borrow it, and he uses it to get out of the hospital in time for the rumble.
2. What are some symbols of the Socs? What are some symbols of the greasers? Symbols for the Socs are madras shirts, “tuff” cars, and preppy sweaters. Greaser symbols are jeans, tshirts, greased back hair, and leather jackets.
3. What does Ponyboy feel is the only good reason for fighting? Ponyboy believes that self-defense is the only good reason for fighting.
4. Why don’t Darry and Pony get along? Darry and Pony do not get along because they frustrate each other and do not know each other well. Pony thinks Darry is too strict on him and does not know how to have fun. Darry thinks Pony needs to “use his head” and think about his actions.
5. When is the only time Pony sees Darry cry? Pony sees Darry cry when Pony returns safely from the abandoned church. Ponyboy is shocked because he thought Darry did not care about him.
6. How does Johnny feel about killing a Soc? Johnny feels horrible for killing Bob, but he says he did it to save Pony’s life.
7. Who helps Johnny and Pony when they are in trouble? Pony and Johnny go to Dallas for help.
8. What do Johnny and Pony do to pass the time while they are at the abandoned church? Pony and Johnny read Gone with the Wind, play cards, talk, smoke, and eat baloney while they are hiding out.
9. Why does Dallas hit Pony across the back when Pony comes out of the church? Dallas hits Pony across the back because he saw that Pony’s jacket was on fire. He was trying to put the fire out.
10. Who is the spy for the rumble? Cherry Valance acts as the spy between the greasers and Soc before the rumble.
11. What is Johnny’s last message to Pony? Johnny tells Pony to “stay gold.”
12. How does Pony cope with Johnny’s death? Ponyboy does not cope well with Johnny’s death. He is very sad, he says he actually killed Bob, and his grades begin to drop.
13. What does Ponyboy say is the difference from their gang and a pack of wolves? Ponyboy says the difference between a gang and a pack of wolves is loyalty.
14. What is the brothers’ favorite breakfast? Chocolate cake is the Curtis brothers’ favorite breakfast.
15. Why does Randy tell Pony that fighting between the greasers and Socs will not do any good? Randy tells Pony that the rumble will not do any good because greasers will still be greasers and Socs will be Socs. All the fighting will not change that fact.
16. Why was Bob unhappy and wild? Bob was unhappy and wild because his parents did not set limits for him and never told him no.
17. Why was Soda moody and depressed? Soda is moody and depressed because Sandy moved away to Florida and returned his letter unopened. Soda is also moody because he is tired of being in the middle of his brothers.
18. What does Johnny want Ponyboy to tell Dallas? Johnny wants Pony to tell Dallas to watch a sunset because he thinks Dallas has never paid attention to one. He also wants Dallas to know that there is still good in the world.
19. How does Dally try to “bluff” the police? After robbing a store, Dallas raises an unloaded gun when the police are chasing him.
20. Even though they don’t have much, what does Ponyboy say that the greasers have? Ponyboy says the greasers do not have material things, but they do have a reputation to protect.