



## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors & CP Literature Survey Summer Reading Assignment 2023-2024

All students must read the *Letter to the Galatians* in the New Testament in addition to the book the *Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton.

### Instructions:

- Complete all ten discussion questions below using complete sentences and proper grammar.
- Provide examples and quotes from the text to support your answers.
- Type or neatly write your responses on a separate sheet of paper or in a printed Word document.
- Your completed assignment is due on the first day of school. Please bring it with you to your English class.

### Summer Reading Questions:

1. Discuss the development of the theme of friendship throughout "The Outsiders." Provide specific examples of the bonds between characters.
2. What is the significance of the novel's title, and how does the term "outsider" apply to various characters in the story?
3. Explore the characters' struggles with their personal identities in "The Outsiders." How does their search for identity impact their choices and actions?

4. How do social and economic class divisions affect the characters and events in the novel?  
How does this relate to our society today?
5. Analyze Ponyboy's relationship with Johnny. How does their friendship influence their actions and perspectives on life?
6. What role does the concept of family play in the lives of the Greasers? What makes a family in the context of "The Outsiders"?
7. From a Christian perspective, how can the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) be related to the actions and choices of the characters in "The Outsiders"? Are there any instances in the novel where characters display love and compassion towards one another despite their differences?
8. Examine the role of violence in "The Outsiders." How does it impact the characters' lives and their relationships with each other? What could be some alternative ways of resolving conflicts?
9. Discuss the significance of Robert Frost's poem "Nothing Gold Can Stay" to Ponyboy and Johnny, and how it reflects on the story's events.
10. How does the novel's ending impact the overall message of "The Outsiders"? Does it offer hope, closure, or something else?