

NAME: _____ Socratic Seminar Preparation Sheet Period: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Copy 5 of the 8 questions and answer them thoroughly, referring to the text OFTEN. For # 6, Create your own thought-provoking question relate to the text to use in the discussion and answer it. Mrs. Russ MUST APPROVE #6.

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5	
6	Create your own questions here:

Socratic Seminar Questions: Choose 5 of the 8 questions to prepare for the discussion next class. Refer to examples, details, events, characters, evidence from the text in your answers. You must have your questions prepared to participate in the discussion. You will have an Alternate required assignment if not prepared for discussion.

1. How do friends/family shape your personal identity? Give your own example and one from the text.
2. The most important event and/or quote from the text is _____. Explain why.
3. Why is it important to see life from the point of view of others and not just your own? Give your own example and one from the text.
4. Which character from the text has gone through the most development? Explain how this character developed over the course of the story. Refer to the text.
5. Johnny tells Ponyboy to “Stay Gold” but the poem says “Nothing Gold Can Stay”. Who was correct? Explain why.
6. What does it mean to be an Outsider? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. Explain how you are an outsider.
7. What similarities and differences does your neighborhood/community have with Ponyboy’s neighborhood?
8. In what ways does S.E. Hinton provide information and details that make the story seem realistic to readers. Give at least 2 examples with evidence.

What if the quality of the questions is not provoking thoughtful dialogue?

Question review: Prior to the seminar, have students turn in their questions for review or have them swap with a partner to evaluate them and rewrite as necessary.

Checklist for student developed questions:

1. Can the question be answered without reading the text? If so, discard.
2. If the question refers to a specific quotation from the text, does it give the page and paragraph/line number for quick reference during the seminar? If not, add those.
3. Does the question ask for facts? If so, rewrite so it moves beyond facts. You can't discuss facts, you can only state them.
4. Is the question a YES/NO question? If so, rewrite so it is not.
5. Does the text provide enough information to discuss this question? If not, rewrite to be more connected to the text.
6. Does the question ask for personal experiences that may not add to the discussion of ideas, issues, or values? If so, rewrite to make it more text-related.
7. Does the question elicit the most important ideas, values and issues in the text? If not, rewrite based on specific sections of the reading to help guide a focus toward main ideas.

BELLWORK TUESDAY:

Make up your own questions about the Outsiders for each of these categories:

A. LEVEL 2- The answer to this type of question can be found by “reading between the lines” or inferring.
(ex: Do you think that Cherry had feelings for Ponyboy beyond friendship? Explain.)

B. LEVEL 3- The answer to this type of question goes beyond the text. The question does not ONLY apply to the Outsiders. These are the “WHY” questions.
(ex: Why are most people unwilling to give criminals a second chance?)