

## **2019 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT GRADE 8**

The more students read, the more prepared they will be for class, for college, and for life. My purpose in asking your child to read over the summer is to continue to develop an appreciation and enjoyment for reading. Thinking, discussing, and writing about a book as the year begins gives us some common ground from which we can discuss and share.

Please complete each part of the assignment, which is due on the first day of school, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Do not wait until August to enjoy this book. Start now!

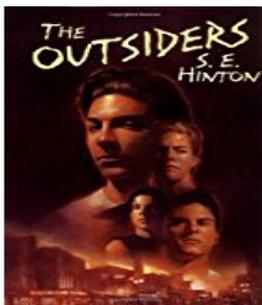
### **REMINDER FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS:**

- Type your responses
- Send your work through spell and grammar check.
- Times New Roman– Font –Size 12 – double spaced
- Heading on top left of your paper
- Label each section
- Do not “share” any work with your peers.

John Doe
Teacher Name
English (grade level)
Date (August 12, 2019)

Students must be prepared for a graded assessment during the first week of school. As a reminder, all written work is due on the first day of school and late work will not be accepted.

### **Grade 8**



#### **The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton**

*The Outsiders* is about two weeks in the life of a 14-year-old boy. The novel tells the story of Ponyboy Curtis and his struggles with right and wrong in a society in which he believes that he is an outsider. According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers.

**Before Reading - Refer to formatting on page one for written responses (10 points)**

Research S.E. Hinton and write a paragraph about how this novel evolved. Notice the author’s age and date of publication as well as the reason this book was banned at one time.

**During Reading - Refer to formatting on page one for written responses**

**Reading Journal (8 entries, 10 points each)**

A reading journal is a way to record your thoughts as a conversation between you and the text. You will track key ideas, ask questions you have about the text, and react to what happens in the text.

As you read, **choose quotes or short passages from the book that stand out to you.** You will copy the quote or parts of the passage that stand out to you. Make sure to include the chapter and page number(s) of the passage. Look for quotes that speak to you! They can remind you of something in your own life, make you realize something about the plot or about a character, or reveal something important about the book. Make sure the quotes are spread out pretty evenly throughout the book and not all from one section of the book. No more than one quote per chapter.

After you select your quotes, then you need to analyze what the quote means in your own words. This should be no longer than 5 sentences. To analyze the quote, ask yourself questions such as why the quote is important to the book or that specific chapter. How does the quote relate to a major character, or to the plot? In your response, you can also include things like how the quote relates to your life, how the quote applies to something in the real world, how the quote reveals something about a character, or how the quote relates to another book, movie, TV show, etc. ***These responses must be original and your own thoughts and words. Use a variety of the types of responses and not just one type for all eight journals. These responses need to be well thought out and detailed responses.***

**After Reading - Refer to formatting on page one for written responses (10 points)**

Looking at life as an outsider and feeling as though one is being treated as an outsider is a matter of perspective or point of view. Someone who feels like an outsider may conclude that life is unfair *and they just don't belong.*

There are many “outsiders” in the Bible. Select one and analyze why this character would be considered an “outsider”.