

Comprehension Check

Chapters 4-6

Directions: As you read and take notes using the note-taking technique described on page 16, use the Comprehension Check questions below to help guide your understanding of all aspects of the novel. You may want to use these questions to help you as you take notes. After reading the given chapters, answer the questions on a separate sheet of paper.

Chapter Four

1. What happens to Ponyboy at the park?
2. Why does Johnny go after Bob? What is the result?
3. Why does Johnny react so violently to the Socs?
4. To whom do Ponyboy and Johnny go for help? What does he give them? What does he tell them to do?
5. How do the boys get to where they are going? Where are they going to stay?
6. Interpret what Ponyboy means when he says, “things are happening too quick. Too fast.” Do you ever get a similar feeling in your own life? Explain.
7. Why do you think the author included the flashback to when all the guys went to church together? Do you think it was important to include that scene? Why?
8. Make a prediction about Ponyboy’s “premonition.” How could this be a hint of something that is being foreshadowed?

Chapter Five

1. When Pony wakes up, why is he alone? What does Johnny bring back?
2. What do the boys do to disguise themselves? Why is Pony so reluctant to do anything with his hair?
3. How did the boys show their feelings as emotion overcame them? Do you think their behavior was “in character” or did it deviate from the image the writer was trying to create? Explain.
4. How do they pass the time over the next few days? What do they eat?
5. Why does Ponyboy get sick on the fifth day at the church?
6. What does Dally bring to Ponyboy from Sodapop? What does Pony learn from it about Darry’s feelings?
7. How did Dally mislead the police?
8. Where do they go in Buck’s car?
9. When Dally says that his heater “sure does help a bluff...” what does he mean?
10. Who is the “spy” Dally speaks of?

Chapter Six

1. "The spy" thinks the whole mess was her fault. Dally agrees that it is. Thinking back on the story, do you believe the trouble they are all in is because of her? Explain.
2. What does Johnny announce that he and Pony are going to do? Why does he think it is best?
3. What does Dally tell Johnny when he asks about his parents? How does Johnny react? How is his reaction different from how Dally would react?
4. What is happening at the church when they return? Describe what they do about it.
5. What happens to Ponyboy and Johnny because of their actions?
6. Why does Dally club Pony across the back?
7. Where are they headed when Pony wakes up? Where are Johnny and Dallas? Describe each of the boys' injuries.
8. How do Soda and Darry react when they see Ponyboy?
9. Describe the change that has taken place in the relationship between Ponyboy and Darry.