



# WSL 's Incoming 7th Grade ELA Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

Waterside School for Leadership is committed to doing everything possible to improve the reading comprehension and fluency skills of all of our scholars. Recognizing that reading should take place everyday and not just when school is in session, we have developed a Summer Reading assignment. The goal of the assignment is to ensure that all scholars are taking necessary steps to progress in their reading levels as well as serve as a path to one of our first ELA units in the upcoming school year.

We have chosen the book [The Outsiders](#) by S.E. Hinton for scholars to read. The book is available at the library, or can be downloaded as a PDF:

[Outsiders PDF](#)

Once scholars have read the book, they will be instructed to complete an essay that will be their first writing piece in their portfolio for the upcoming school year. They will also be completing a Quote Reflection assignment.

## **Expectations for Scholar Summer Reading assignment:**

- Read 2 hours per week and log minutes on MYON or fill out MSQI reading log
- Read [The Outsiders](#) by S.E. Hinton
- Write an essay (**ON GOOGLEDPCS**) following the instructions in the provided assignment packet
  - If scholars are not able to access a computer to type their essay, there will be specific technology days at the school in which scholars may come into the building to type their essay
- Quote reflection assignment following the instructions provided in the assignment packet (also required to complete digitally)

Reading logs and all summer reading assignments are due as soon as the 2017-2018 school year begins on September 7, 2017.

Have a safe, and wonderful summer. Happy Reading!

# Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Summer Reading Assignment

## **Focus Question: What causes characters to change?**

**Background:** Often people say that we must change to move forward. In literature we see a transformation in a character because of the experiences that they had throughout the story. Usually character must overcome a challenge and this allows the readers to see how a character has changed from the beginning to the end of the novel.

**Task:** Write an essay explaining how different members of the greasers evolved into a hero. Pick two out of these three characters and justify why you believe Ponyboy, Johnny, or Dally - could be considered a hero. Include your own definition of hero in the essay, and be sure to explain how each character, in his own way, meets your definition. Remember to support your ideas with examples.

Steps to Success:

1. Read the novel *The Outsiders*- helpful hints you can borrow this book from the library or you can download the book in a PDF form [The Outsiders PDF](#)
2. Keep notes about how the characters evolved into heroes
3. Use the Outline and Rubric to help you draft and publish your essay

### Outline:

#### **Introduction**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduce the book you read (Title and Author)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduce your definition of a hero
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identify which two characters you believe could be considered as a hero and why

#### **Body Paragraph 1** (Justify why you believe this character evolved into a hero)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Explain what your *character was like in the beginning*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identify the situation that caused them to change and how it impacted their life
- \_\_\_\_\_ Justify how they evolved into a hero and link it back to your definition
- \_\_\_\_\_ Use at least two text based details

#### **Body Paragraph 2** (Justify why you believe this character evolved into a hero)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Explain what your *character was like in the beginning*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identify the situation that caused them to change and how it impacted their life
- \_\_\_\_\_ Justify how they evolved into a hero and link it back to your definition
- \_\_\_\_\_ Use at least two text based details

#### **Conclusion**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Use a concluding statement to signal the end of your essay and link it to the two characters you have identified as heroes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Explain why you think they are a hero
- \_\_\_\_\_ Explain if you think your character is better/worse off now that they have gone through this challenge and why

WSL/ ELA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Self Reflection:** Your reflection must be typed on a separate page. Use **RATER** as you respond to each question.

What was the hardest part about this assignment?

A. Reading the book B. Gathering evidence for the graphic organizer C. Writing the essay Explain why you selected one of the above and what did you do to persevere through the assignment?

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What was the easiest part about this assignment? Why do you think you found this less challenging?

What will you do to make it more of a challenge next time?

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### Character Charting

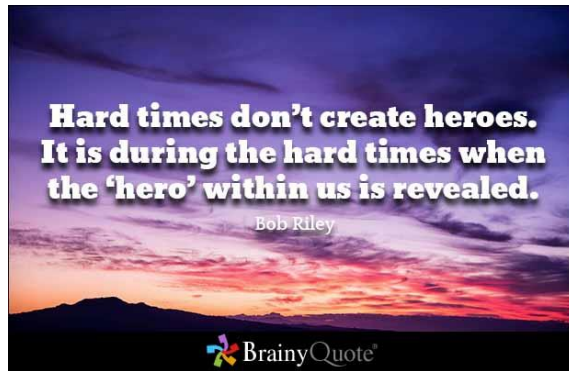
During the course of the story Darry, Johnny, and Dally - could be considered a hero. Tell how each of the characters, in his own way, meets your definition of being a hero by using evidence from the book.

**Definition of a hero:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character	Beginning	End
1. Dally	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
2. Johnny	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
3. Darry	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

**Summer Assignment: Note-Passing Quote Analysis**

Analyzing the quote below: **Explain** what you believe the quote is saying. State whether you **agree or disagree** with the quote. **Why?**



Rate your understanding of the quote: \_\_\_\_\_

**Red- I don't understand it**

**Yellow- I understand part of it**

**Green- I understand it and can discuss/explain it**

**Explain meaning of the quote:**

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**Agree or disagree? Why?**

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**Agree or disagree? Why?**

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