Chapters 1-2

1. Identify Darry, Sodapop, and Ponyboy by giving at least 3 descriptions of each.

   - Darry – oldest brother, 20, roofer, former football player
   - Sodapop – middle brother, 16, dropout, works at gas station
   - Ponyboy – youngest brother, 14, good grades, runs track

2. How are Greasers different from Socs?

   - the way they dress
   - money
   - how they express their emotions

3. Who were other members of Pony’s gang?

   - Two-Bit Matthews – 20, wisecracker of the bunch
   - Steve Randall – 17, Soda’s best friend, works part-time at gas station
   - Johnny Cade – 16, beaten up by Socs before beginning of novel, idolizes Dally
   - Dallas (Dally) Winston – 17, street tough, in/out of jail, loves Johnny

4. What happened to Pony on his way home from the movies?

   - Pony was jumped by a group of Socs that were riding in a blue mustang
   - they threatened to cut his hair off
   - the gang came running and scared Socs away

5. Who did Dally, Johnny, and Ponyboy meet at the Nightly Double?

   Cherry Valance and her friend, Marcia - Socs

6. Contrast Dally’s approach to Cherry and Marcia with Pony’s.

   - Dally was tuff, crude, and obnoxious
   - Ponyboy was kind, respectful, and understanding

7. Contrast Cherry’s response to Dally with her response to Pony.

   - Cherry believed that she could fall in love with Dally due to his wild, independent spirit
   - Cherry knew that she and Pony shared the same feelings and understood each other, they could wind up friends
8. Why were Cherry and Marcia alone at the drive-in?

   Their boyfriends, Bob and Randy, had been drinking and the girls did not want to be around them when they drank.

9. Why was Pony surprised that he was getting along with Cherry and Marcia?

   • they were Socs and he was a Greaser
   • they were normal people just like him
   • even though they had money they had the same fears and feelings

10. What had happened to Johnny prior to the time of this story?

    Johnny had been beat up very badly by a gang of Socs that drove a blue mustang – the one to beat Johnny the worst was Bob, the Soc that wore rings.

**Chapters 3-4**

1. After talking with Cherry, what reason does Pony finally give for the separation between Greasers and Socs?

   The Socs kept all their emotions bottled up inside and presented a calm, cool façade while the Greasers were too full of emotions that they spilled out all over the place.

2. Who were Cherry and Marcia’s boyfriends?

   • Cherry’s boyfriend was Bob
   • Marcia’s boyfriend was Randy

3. Why didn’t the Socs and Greasers fight during their first encounter after the movie?

   • They didn’t fight because Cherry stopped them, she hated fighting

4. Why was Pony late coming home from the Nightly Double?

   He fell asleep in the vacant lot talking with Johnny and looking at the stars

5. What caused Pony to “run away?”

   When he got home, Darry yelled at him and slapped him across the face.
6. What happened to Johnny and Ponyboy at the park?

- a group of Socs came and nearly drowned Ponyboy
- Johnny killed Bob with his switchblade
- the other Socs ran away

7. To whom do Johnny and Pony turn for help after the incident in the park? Why?

- they went to find Dally at Buck Merrill’s place
- he would know what to do and how to hide them from the police

8. Why did Johnny and Pony go to Jay’s Mountain?

They were hiding from the police because Johnny had killed Bob, the Soc.

**Chapters 5-6**

1. Why was Pony upset about getting a haircut?

Pony’s hair was what identified him as a Greaser; it was his identity and pride

2. What was Johnny’s favorite part of *Gone with the Wind*? Of whom did it remind him?

- Johnny loved the part about the description of the Southern gentlemen and how they rode off to war
- it reminded him of Dally – gallant

3. When Dally finally arrives at the church, what news does he bring?

- Johnny is wanted for manslaughter
- Sodapop had written Pony a letter and sent ½ his paycheck
- Cherry was spying for the Greasers and passing them information about the Socs
- Socs and Greasers were having fights all over the place
- there was going to be a rumble between the Socs and the Greasers to settle it all

4. What did Johnny announce after his fifth barbecue sandwich?

He said that they were going to go back and turn themselves in.

5. Describe Johnny’s relationship with his parents.

- Johnny’s parents hated him, beat and cursed at him, didn’t care where he was or what happened to him
- Johnny really wanted a family – someone who truly cared about him
6. What happened when Johnny, Pony, and Dally returned to the church?

- the church was on fire (probably from a cigarette left behind)
- Ponyboy and Johnny ran back into the church to rescue the kids that were inside
- Dally helped pull the kids out through the window
- Dally tackled Ponyboy to put out the fire on his coat
- the roof collapsed on Johnny and broke his back
- Dally went in after the collapse of the roof and pulled Johnny out of the building

Chapters 7-9

1. What additional problem did the three brothers face after Pony’s return?

The social services workers would place Sodapop and Ponyboy in a boy’s home

2. Why did Randy want to talk to Pony?

- he couldn’t believe a Greaser would risk his life like that
- he would not have gone into the fire to rescue the kids
- Bob was his best friend, a really great guy
- he would not be participating in the rumble that evening because he just wanted all the fighting to end

3. When Johnny’s mother came to visit him at the hospital, what was Johnny’s reaction?

- Johnny didn’t want anything to do with her and told the nurse not to let her in
- got so upset that he passed out

4. Why wouldn’t Cherry go visit Johnny?

She couldn’t bring herself to go see the person that had killed her boyfriend, Bob

5. Compare and contrast the boys’ reasons for fighting. (Darry, Steve, Soda, and Two-Bit)

- Darry – pride
- Steve – hatred
- Sodapop – fun
- Two-Bit - conformity

6. What did Pony say was the difference between Tim’s gang and his?

Tim was the official leader of the gang and the others did what he said but Pony’s “gang” was just a group of friends that were loyal to each other without an official “leader”
7. Identify Paul Holden by giving at least 3 descriptions.

• former co-captain of the football team with Darry
• used to be one of Darry’s best friends
• a Soc that hated Darry now
• unofficial “leader” of the Socs

8. Who “won” the rumble?

Truly no one because nothing would ever change, but the Socs were the ones to run away so the Greasers “won” the fight

9. Where did Dally take Pony after the rumble?

to the hospital to see Johnny

10. How do we know Dally felt at least partially responsible for Johnny’s fate?

Dally told Ponyboy in the car that he shouldn’t have protected Johnny so much and kept him from getting “hard.” If he had let him toughen up, then he wouldn’t be hurt like this.

11. What advice did Dally give to Pony on the way to the hospital after the rumble?

• look out for himself and he wouldn’t get hurt
• be tuff like Dally

12. What were Johnny’s last words to Ponyboy?

“Stay gold, Ponyboy – stay gold.”

**Chapters 10-12**

1. Of what did Pony try to convince himself on the way home from the hospital?

he tried to convince himself that Johnny wasn’t really dead

2. What did Pony decide was the reason Dally couldn’t take Johnny’s death?

Dally just lost the only thing (person) that he had ever loved

3. Why did Dally rob the grocery store and then raise his unloaded gun to the police?

he had lost everything and wanted to die
4. Why would Pony have thought he was in Windrixville while he was delirious?

that was his last memories of Johnny and his mind was refusing to accept the fact that Johnny was now dead

5. What was Pony’s reaction when Randy talked about Johnny?

• he got emotional and upset
• he claimed that he had killed Bob and not Johnny
• he refused to hear the Johnny was dead or a murderer

6. What was the result of the court hearing?

• Ponyboy was acquitted and not charged with any crimes
• Ponyboy and Sodapop would be able to stay with Darry and not be split up

7. How did Pony react to the three Socs who bullied him about killing Bob?

• calm, cool, uncaring
• broke his pop bottle to protect himself without a second thought
• did not touch him emotionally at all

8. Johnny’s note made several points. What were they?

• it was worth saving those kids
• he isn’t afraid of dying
• the poem meant that they were gold when they were kids – everything is new and innocent
• looking at sunsets are special and not to let that part of him (Pony) go away
• tell Dally to look at a sunset
• not to let being a greaser upset him because he still has plenty of time to become who he wants to be
• there is still a lot of good in the world and to tell Dally that

9. How do we know Ponyboy will be all right?

He finally comes to terms with the fact that both Dally and Johnny are dead. He begins to write his “theme” for English and tells the story of what had happened in order to change the way people look at each other and treat each other. He tells the story of friendship, loyalty, and belonging.