Chapter Three

1. What does Cherry explain as the difference between the socs and the greasers?

2. Why don’t the Socs feel anything and the Greasers feel too violently?

3. What’s the conflict?

4. What does Ponyboy mean on p.39 when he says “Johnny and I understood each other without saying anything?” Have you ever had a relationship with someone who you understood, or who understood you, without having to say anything? Why is that important?

5. What does Pony discover about the Socs who were in the car?

6. When and how did Pony’s parents die?

7. What happens when Pony comes here after his curfew?

8. Why does Johnny like it better when his father is hitting him?

9. At the end of the chapter, how does the author foreshadow that bad things are to come?

Chapter Four

1. What does Pony mean when he says the Socs were “reeling pickled” on page 54?

2. What major even happens in this chapter?

3. How did the author foreshadow that Johnny would use his knife in chapter 2?

4. What would your advice be to Johnny and Ponyboy if they’d come to you for help instead of Dally? Explain.

5. How did the setting foreshadow the events in this?