

8th Grade Summer Reading Packet
Summer 2021

Welcome to 8th grade, Saint Aloysius students! This coming school year will consist of many different adventures in Reading and Writing. I am very excited to start off the school year discussing these two seemingly unrelated topics. In ELA, we will begin the year characterizing some of Literature's most beloved and infamous characters in the novel The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton. I ask that you please purchase your own, new copy of this novel, as we will be exploring the art of Annotation this summer and the beginning of next year.

We will also be kicking off the year with Literary Devices and Poetry Analysis with an assortment of poets guiding our path. I look forward to exploring these treasured works with you all upon your return.

Have a wonderful summer! See you in August!

Miss Kathryn Weller

Saint Aloysius Parish School

8th grade English Language Arts

The Outsiders

What is Annotation?

Annotating a text means to mark it up—with ink! Ah! We've lived most of our lives being told that novels are sacred and that we should treat each page with love and respect by not harming the pages... However, on the opposite end of the spectrum, annotating a text can be our own unique way of loving and respecting a novel by actively taking part in understanding the words on the pages!

How to Annotate

Every book's annotation should be a reflection of the annotator—YOU! You can mark up a book however best fits your note-taking style. Yet, this is a new concept to us! So, this summer, you are going to annotate your copy of the novel according to the following guidelines. You can use whatever colors/writing utensils you desire, so long as your annotations meet the following criteria.

Task 1

As you read your own copy of *The Outsiders*, mark up chapters 1-3 of your book with the following categories:

- At least 5 annotations of **Characterization** – As each character is introduced, mark some of their characteristics and personality traits in the margins.
 - Ex: occupation, familial relations, hobbies, bold personality traits
- At least 1 annotation of **Theme** – One of the major themes of this novel is the discovery of identity. This theme will make itself known after chapters 1-3, but be on the lookout for any hints of self-discovery amongst the characters and mark it in your book.
- At least 5 annotations of **Vocabulary** – As you encounter vocabulary words you do not know, take time to define them in the margins (This includes slang terms!).
- At least 5 annotations of **Literary Devices** – Use the attached Literary Devices guide to locate and annotate major literary devices in these chapters. The novel is FULL of them!
- At least 3 annotations of **Personal Thought** – Have a question about a character? Don't understand a sentence? Have a prediction about the future of the novel? Write it down in the margins!

Task 2

Complete the attached worksheets after reading the novel in its entirety.

The Outsiders Chapter 1: Character Study

In Chapter 1 we meet many of the main characters in this novel. List the characteristics, attributes, (physical and personality traits) and important relationship connections of all the greasers in Ponyboy's gang (listed below):



PONYBOY:

DARRY:

SODAPOP:

STEVE RANDLE:

TWO-BIT MATTHEWS:

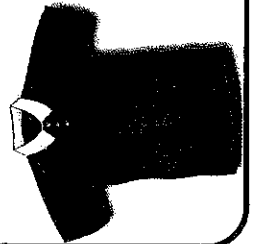
DALLAS WINSTON:

JOHNNY CADE:

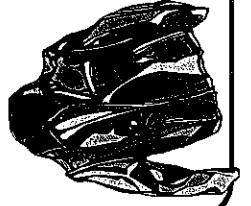
GREASERS / SOCS COMPARISON

You are now an objective observer. Use the chart below to write down the differences and similarities between these gangs. Although at first glance, they may seem to have nothing in common, if you look a little deeper into the novel, you will see that they are not so different after all.

Differences



Similarities



Poetry Analysis: Guide

Below, you will find basic information about traditional poetic structure.
Use this information to guide you through your analyses.

What is a Poem?

A poem is an idea expressed through a set structure; a uniquely created literary experience that ties basic sentence structure with rhythm and/or visual appeal.

Poems Consist of...

- Lines – Each line of a poem is exactly that—one line on top of the next. 1 line does not equal 1 full sentence.
- Stanzas – Stanzas are the paragraphs of poems. They are a collection of lines specifically grouped together for a purpose.
- Rhyme Scheme – Rhyme scheme is the pattern by which lines in a poem rhyme with one another. Each ending sound of the last word in each poem creates a scheme pattern. These patterns work together to create the overall Rhyme Scheme.
 - (Example included below)
- Point of View – The perspective by which a poem is narrated.
 - 1st person (me, I, us, we)
 - 2nd person (you, you all)
 - 3rd person (they, them, he, she)

Look at the following poem for visual examples of the above-mentioned terms.

“Sonnet 18,” William Shakespeare

STANZA 1 { 1 Shall I¹ compare thee² to a summer's day? A
 2 Thou art more lovely and more temperate: B
 3 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, A
 4 And summer's lease hath all too short a date: B

2 { 5 Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines, C
 6 And often his³ gold complexion dimm'd; D
 7 And every fair from fair sometime declines, C
 8 By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd; D

3 { 9 But thy eternal summer shall not fade E
 10 Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest; F
 11 Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade, E
 12 When in eternal lines to time thou growest; F

4 { 13 So long as men can breathe or eyes can see, G
 14 So long lives this and this gives life to thee. G

(also called a couplet)
fun fact

*Told in 1st + 2nd person, with some 3rd added in for detail

Literary Devices

"Nothing Gold Can Stay"

Absolute – a word with no limits; suggests a final statement (“all,” “everything,” “perfect”)

Allegory – a word, phrase, or story that suggests a hidden meaning through the use of metaphors; the meaning of a grand concept of life is often shown through common, material things (ex: usually when someone says, “I need coffee,” they really mean, “I need energy.” In this case, coffee is an allegory for a needed boost of energy.)

Alliteration – repetition of sounds in words, back-to-back (“Peter Piper picked a pepper”)

Allusion – a reference to literary, mythological, or historical people, places, or actions; usually famous (“Getting through that crowd was like *parting the Red Sea*.”)

Connotation – the implied meaning of a word; not necessarily the dictionary definition (“She is an absolute *rose*, a delight.”)

Hyperbole – an exaggeration of a word or concept, either understated or overstated. (“That elevator took *forever* to get here!”)

Imagery – the use of figures of speech to create vivid descriptions that appeal to the senses (ex: The gentle ocean waves crept over the flat, shell-covered shores. Small crabs emerged from tiny holes in the sand to say, “Good morning.”)

Metaphor – comparison between two things not using “like” or “as” (“That car *was a rocket ship* flying through the street!”)

Mood – the emotional atmosphere of a work; the feeling a piece of literature invokes

Paradox – two opposites being paired together in a phrase that, once thought about, could make a much deeper statement (“I am a nobody.” *If you exist, you are technically a somebody.*)

Personification – giving humanlike qualities to unhuman things (ex: a raging fire)

Theme – the central idea of a work, a statement about the overall message of a work of literature (ex: A theme of Cinderella is “magic is only temporary, but love is forever.”)

Tone – the attitude of a writer, usually implied, toward the subject or audience.

The Outsiders“Nothing Gold Can Stay” -Robert Frost
Annotation Guide**Directions**

Use the provided Literary Devices sheet to find **at least one** literary device *per line*, underline it, and label them to the side.

- 1 Nature's first green is gold, metaphor - green is not technically gold; this is making a comparison of "green" to a beautiful thing (gold)
- 2 Her hardest hue to hold.
- 3 Her early leaf's a flower;
- 4 But only so an hour.
- 5 Then leaf subsides to leaf.
- 6 So Eden sank to grief,
- 7 So dawn goes down to day.
- 8 Nothing gold can stay.



Analyzing Poetry: "The Raven" PARAPHRASE/TRANSLATION: 2

Excerpt from "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door -
Only this, and nothing more."

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December,
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.
Eagerly I wished the morrow; - vainly I had sought to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow - sorrow for the lost Lenore -
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore -
Nameless here for evermore.

And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain
Thrilled me - filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before;
So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating,
"Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door -
Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door; -
This it is, and nothing more."

Presently my soul grew stronger; hesitating then no longer,
"Sir," said I, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore;
But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came rapping,
And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my chamber door,
That I scarce was sure I heard you"- here I opened wide the door;
Darkness there, and nothing more.

EXAMPLE:
It was late at night and I felt tired and miserable. I was half-asleep, thinking about books I had been reading, when someone gently knocked on my door. I thought it must be a visitor.

[Empty box for student response]

[Empty box for student response]

[Empty box for student response]

1. Number the lines. **IN GREEN**

2. Number the stanzas. **IN BLUE**

3. What point-of-view is this poem written in? (Circle) First person, Third person

4. Paraphrase the stanzas in the boxes to the right of the poem. (stanza 1 has been done for you)

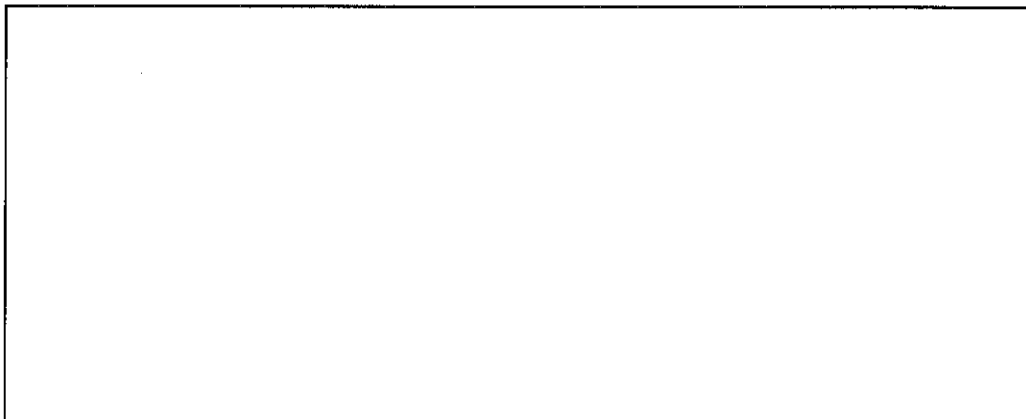
5. Write the rhyming pattern at the end of each line. What is the rhyme scheme?
IN RED

6. Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds. Underline two examples of assonance in red.

7. Consonance is the repetition of consonant sounds. Underline one example of consonance in blue.

8. Underline two words you don't know the meanings to in ~~purple~~ ^{purple} and look them up in the dictionary. Write your words/definitions on the lines below:

9. Underline one example of imagery with yellow. In the box below, draw the picture that this line(s) invokes in your mind.



10. Underline one example of repetition in ~~purple~~ pink.

11. What type of poem is represented by this excerpt?

a) free verse

c) haiku

b) narrative

d) limerick

12. Which word best describes the tone of this ~~excerpt~~ ^{poem's excerpt}?

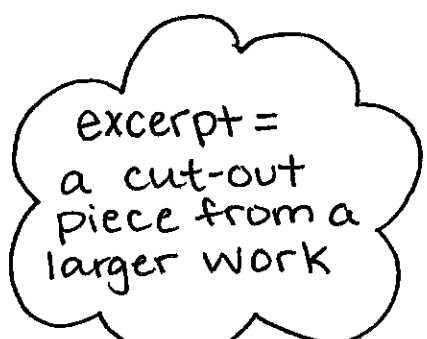
a) ominous

c) sarcastic

b) humorous

d) playful

13. Write a short summary of this excerpt below:



excerpt =
a cut-out
piece from a
larger work