

Discussion Rubric:

Literature Circle Discussion Rubric						
		No Evidence of Skills (0)	Beginning (1)	Developing (2)	Proficient (3)	Advanced (4)
CLAD	Respond to Diverse Perspectives	Doesn't respond to diverse perspectives	Superficially responds to diverse perspectives	Unevenly responds to diverse perspectives	Responds thoughtfully to diverse perspectives	Respond thoughtfully and respectfully to diverse perspectives
	Qualify/Justify Own Views	Doesn't qualify or justify my own views and understanding	Minimally qualifies <u>or</u> justifies my own views and understanding	Minimally qualifies <u>and</u> justifies my own views and understanding	Qualify and justify my own views and understanding	Persuasively qualifies and justifies my own views and understanding

Discussion Directions:

1. Post an answer that shares the **most important** aspect of your individual role - what did you discover that will best help your group members understand the book on a deeper level? (You will need to post your own answer before you can respond to others.)
2. Read your group members' responses carefully.
3. Respond thoughtfully and respectfully to every group member's original post by explaining your own view and supporting this view with evidence. (You may also respond to someone else's response.)
4. Finally, respond to your group members' replies to your original post.

*Every post you make must be at least one complete sentence.

Discussion Tips: It will be easiest if you make your original post and then check back in to respond to your group members a couple different times. Don't think you can get it all done at once.

Discussion Example:

Ali (Fearless Leader)

Betty (Insightful Identifier)

Cate (Connection Captain)

Daoud (Question Commander)

Ali: I summarized as the fearless leader this week. I think the most important thing we need to know about the story so far is that Darry is trying to be a parent to Ponyboy, but doesn't know how to do it well. For example, when he was yelling at Ponyboy after he got jumped: "'You don't ever think,' Darry broke in, 'not at home or anywhere when it counts. You must think at school, with all those good grades you bring home, and you've

always got your nose in a book, but do you ever use your head for common sense? No sirree, bub. And if you did have to go by yourself, you should have carried a blade” (Hinton 12). This shows that Darry was worried but his worry is expressed as anger.

Daoud: Ali, I think you’re right about how Darry feels about Ponyboy. It’s like when my little brother fell out of the tree. My mom gave him a big hug, then started yelling at him. She was afraid he had broken something.

Betty: I don’t know, you guys. I think Darry is just kind of mean. He never checks to see how Ponyboy really feels.

Cate: I’m not sure that this is the most important part of the story. I think it’s more important that the Soc’s were driving a “red corvair.” I bet that car comes back later and is important somehow.

Ali: I see what you mean, Cate. It was really tough for me to choose just one thing to share. I agree that the car is probably important too. I just think that the relationships between brothers is probably one of the big things in the story. I guess we’ll find out.

Betty: As the insightful identifier, I noticed that the author used a lot of slang words to show us that Ponyboy and the guys are teens. Like when Ponyboy was describing Dally, he said “He just went for kicks” (Hinton 10). The word “kicks” doesn’t literally mean moving his feet, it means that he went for fun. That’s figurative meaning. There’s also where he says, “Not like the Socs, who jump greasers and wreck houses and throw beer blasts for kicks” (Hinton 4). The word “jump” means attack here and is common slang.

Ali: You’re right. I mean, I know that Ponyboy is supposed to be smart, but he still sounds like a kid, like he’s our age. I think that’s partly because the author did a good job using language that real teens actually use (or used to use).

Daoud: I didn’t notice or even think about “kicks” being figurative language, because I just knew what he meant. I guess it’s kind of like inferences - my brain automatically makes the jump.

Cate: You’re right! I noticed some slang too. Do any of you guys know who Ponyboy is talking about on the first page when he says the name “Paul Newman?” I’m not sure if I’m supposed to know who that is.

Betty: Cate, I asked my mom who Paul Newman was and she said he’s an old actor that my grandma liked. That makes sense, since Ponyboy was coming back from the movies. And yeah, Daoud, it really took me time and several readings to figure out which words/phrase important.

Cate: I was the connection captain and made a connection to a news story I heard a little while ago. When Ponyboy got attacked it reminded me of this story where an Asian American boy got attacked because of coronavirus. The article is [here](#). Bullying someone because of who they are (Asian) was like how Ponyboy was attacked because he was a greaser. The soc’s didn’t know who he was, so it wasn’t personal. It was.. not racist, but like racism.

Daoud: That’s a good connection. I see what you mean. I can’t imagine wanting to hurt someone you’ve never met. One time, my mom got yelled at in the grocery store because she was wearing a hijab. She was told to “go back where you came from!” (She was born in Dearborn!)

Betty: I agree with you, Daoud. I would never want to hurt someone, especially someone I don’t know or who didn’t do anything to me first.

Ali: Cate, it's like when Trump called the Coronavirus the "Chinese virus." I think that started a lot of racism against Asians in our country. I wonder what happened (if anything) in Ponyboy's world to make people prejudiced against greasers.

Cate: Wow, you guys really made some good connections to my connection. Thank you! (Ali, I hadn't heard that Trump said that - unbelievable! It's like when America put all the Japanese Americans in internment camps just because of their heritage.)

Daoud: I was the question commander and the best question I have is: Who do you think are the modern day "greasers" and why do you think this? (Support your answer with evidence)

Ali: I think that modern day "greasers" are like gang members. In the book it says, "Greasers are almost like hoods; we steal things and drive old souped-up cars and hold up gas stations and have a gang fight once in a while" (Hinton 4). This shows they are like gangs like the Bloods and Crips.

Cate: Hmm.. I think that "greasers" are like emos or goths. They identify themselves by looking different than "normal" kids. Like Ponyboy talks about his hair, "My hair is longer than a lot of boys wear theirs, squared off in back and long at the front and sides, but I am a greaser and most of my neighborhood rarely bothers to get a haircut" (Hinton 1).

Betty: I think I agree with Ali. Greasers are like tough kids or gang members. They stick up for and fight for their group. When Ponyboy was attacked, the greasers came to his rescue: "Our gang had chased the Socs to their car and heaved rocks at them. They came running toward us now--- four lean, hard guys. They were all as tough as nails and looked it. I had grown up with them, and they accepted me, even though I was younger, because I was Darry and Soda's kid brother and I kept my mouth shut good" (Hinton 9).

Daoud: Good answers! Here's what I thought: In my opinion, modern day greasers would be teen criminals. I think this because Ponyboy says, "We deserve a lot of our trouble, I thought. Dallas deserves everything he gets, and should get worse, if you want the truth. And Two-Bit--- he doesn't really want or need half the things he swipes from stores. He just thinks it's fun to swipe everything that isn't nailed down" (Hinton 14). This shows that they break the law (stealing) and don't even really need to. Earlier, it even said that Dally got out of the "cooler" (jail), so he must have been caught breaking a law.