

Essay 1

Johnny is a Hero

Have you ever met someone who is considered “bad” but they are really a nice person? That is Johnny in The Outsiders. He is called a juvenile delinquent, but is really a loyal and kind friend. As a result, Johnny is actually a hero and he does many things to prove that he is a hero. Johnny is a hero because he saves Ponyboy from drowning, saved kids from a burning church, and gives good advice to his friends.

The first reason that Johnny is a hero is because he saves Ponyboy from drowning and being jumped from The Socs. On page 56 in the novel, Ponyboy was getting drowned by a Soc named Bob. While Pony was trying to get Bob's hands off his head Johnny stabbed him, but Pony didn't notice because he was passed out. When Pony woke up, Johnny seemed very agitated. The book states “I killed him, he said slowly, I killed that boy.” Johnny only killed Bob to save his friend from drowning. If Johnny never killed Bob, Pony would probably have drowned and Johnny might have gotten really injured himself. Even with those facts, Johnny still shows that he is upset by having to kill Bob. He is very upset by having killed Bob which is not something a real bad person would feel.

Essay 2

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Mrs. Smith
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Is Johnny a Hero?

In *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, Johnny Cade is a quiet Greaser who turns out to be super brave. He may not look like a hero at first, but he shows us that he really is one. I think Johnny should be seen as a hero because he was brave, he cared more about others than himself, and he helped Ponyboy change.

Johnny was a hero when he ran into the burning church to save the kids. He didn't stop to think about himself. Ponyboy said, "Johnny wasn't behaving at all like his old self... He wasn't scared either" (Hinton ch. 6). This shows that Johnny was not afraid, even when the fire could have hurt him bad. He done something really brave that not everyone would do.

Essay 3

Essay on the Hero in S. E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*

Hero. This word is mentioned frequently, but what makes a person a hero? Is heroism only saving the world from villains trying to enslave the human race, or can it be a small act of kindness? Can it be both? Yes, for a hero is someone who is brave, courageous and helps others in need. In the book *The Outsiders*, by S. E. Hinton, Ponyboy, Johnny, and Dally can be described as heroes because they are not afraid to step up, and help people. Ponyboy is a hero because he rescued people and befriended a soc. Similarly Johnny is a hero because he used his heroic qualities to help people. Finally Dally is a hero because of his kind and heroic actions towards Johnny. All three of these Greasers, Ponyboy, Johnny, and Dally show that heroism is not only a matter of saving the world, but it is also a matter of doing something for someone else.

Ponyboy is a hero because he is courageous and not afraid to rescue and help people in their times of need. One main reason why Ponyboy is a hero is that when school children are stuck in a fire Ponyboy runs in to rescue them. Ponyboy yells to the teacher, "I'll get them, don't worry... I'll get them," and immediately rushes into the burning building to rescue the children. This quote shows the true nature of Ponyboy because he is concerned for a group of children trapped in a burning church. He was so worried that he goes into the burning church with disregard for his safety and saves the kids. What he did when the church was burning meets the definition of a hero perfectly, he was courageous, saved people who needed his help, and was even called a hero by the newspaper. Another way that Ponyboy is a hero is that when Randy, a soc comes over and talks to Ponyboy, Ponyboy listens and talks to Randy about Randy's problems. Randy then goes on to say, "Thanks kid." This is a small gesture of kindness shown by Ponyboy, yet it is an act of heroism too. People do not have to save the world to be a hero, a small act of kindness still can take a courageous gesture like overcoming the differences between two people like Ponyboy and Randy did. Heroism in its own simple but pleasant way being kind to others is also heroic. Ponyboy is a hero because no matter how big or small the act of heroism he committed was, it saved, and helped people.