

Discussion Board Assignments

This assignment calls for you to

1. **REGISTER** for the forum using your Novell ID/username
2. **LOG ON** to the classroom discussion board at www.theenglishclass.com/forum .
3. **Post and answer** discussion questions by the due date.

For each assignment, you must post three (2) questions related to the novel *The Outsiders*, from the list given to you. You must also add three (3) replies or comments to another student's question. This is the opportunity for you to share any problems or comments you have while we are reading the novel. For extra credit, you may post additional questions about the novel. You will have a total of 4 questions, 6 replies. Any questions beyond that will be extra credit.

If you read a question from a classmate who is having difficulties understanding something, you can use the discussion board to share your own knowledge. You also may use this site to communicate with your group members about projects you are working on. Ideally there will be a lot of conversation going on.

At the minimum there will be two required postings from everyone. If you have access to the Internet at home, at a relative's, or at a friend's home, you can get started on this assignment right away. The class will be going to the Computer Lab two – three times in May, and there will be some time to post your messages then if you have not done so yet. This assignment is worth 100 points.

You click on the “**post a new message**” when you are ready to write something. After you have written your message, you click “submit.”

To reply to a message, you click on the “**reply**” button, type your message and then click “submit.” That is all there is to it.

This site is for our classroom only. No one outside of our class has access to it. Just as in classroom discussions, I expect you to be respectful of your classmates and respond in an appropriate manner. Obviously, discussion should not include swearing or any comments that would not be allowed in the classroom.

Assignment 1 – December 10:

Post 2 questions from the “Questions to Ask” handout. (40 points) Reply to 3 questions from other students. (60 points) *Extra Credit: add three questions of your choice. (15 points)*

Assignment 2 – December 14:

Post 2 questions from the “Questions to Ask” handout. (40 points) Reply to 3 questions from other students. (60 points) *Extra Credit: add three questions of your choice. (15 points)*

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8th Grade English

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The time now is Sun Dec 02, 2007 2:02 am
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Forum	Topics	Posts	Last Post
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Who is Online

Our users have posted a total of **435** articles
 We have **58** registered users
 The newest registered user is **Lexi**

In total there is **1** user online :: 0 Registered, 0 Hidden and 1 Guest [**Administrator**] [**Moderator**]
 Most users ever online was **4** on Tue May 08, 2007 2:27 pm
 Registered Users: None

This data is based on users active over the past five minutes

Log in

Username: Password: Log me on automatically each visit

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 New posts
 No new posts
 Forum is locked

Rubric:

Registration and Login	Registered and logged on with Novell ID	Registered but did not log on to post or respond to questions	Did not register	25
Questions Posted	Starts 4 discussion threads from the list that have not been posted	Starts 2 discussion threads from the list that have not been posted	Starts no discussion threads from the list that have not been posted	25
Questions Answered	Reads others' ideas and respond to 4 questions	Read others' ideas and respond to 2-3 questions	Did not respond to any questions	25
Quality	Written responses are free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Written responses are mostly free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Written responses contain grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	25

Literary Questions to Ask

Setting

- What are the physical backgrounds of the literary work?
- When and where does the action take place? How does this affect the story?
- What details describe the time and place of the story?
- Does the setting seem realistic? Does it remind you of another place?
- What is the relationship between the characters and the setting, the incidents and the setting?
- What effect does setting have on plot? How does the setting reinforce the theme?
- What atmosphere, or mood, does the setting create?
- Is the setting shown through description or action?
- What techniques does the author use to develop setting? Details? Imagery?
- Do the details of the setting tell us anything about the author's ideas about the world in general?
- How much time does the author spend on the description of the setting? What does that tell you about its importance?

Plot

- What is the central conflict in the story? Which characters conflict? And Why?
- What is the cause of the conflict? What is the effect of the conflict?
- Does the story fit one of the four story conflict categories? Is the conflict internal or external?
- In the story structure, can you locate the exposition? Conflict? Climax, Resolution?
- What is the situation/condition at the beginning of the story? at the end of the story? What happened to change the condition/situation?
- How are the happenings arranged?
- How does the conflict develop?
- Between characters? Within the mind of a character? Between a character and a culture or value system?
- What characters are involved in the conflict?
- How does the setting contribute to the conflict?
- What lesson or realization does the character learn from the conflict?

Characterization

- Who are the most important people in the story?
- What are they like, their character traits?
- Are the characters believable? What do they believe, seek, fear, learn?
- Do they change?, grow? Rise? Fall? Describe the initial character, the causes of the change, the ending of characterization.
- How are they affected by the conflicts? Are they unique or are they types?
- What can you infer about their personalities? What actions led you to that conclusion?
- What are the motivations for the character's actions?
- What details about their appearance help to reveal their personalities?
- How does the author make use of both direct and indirect characterization to portray character?

Theme

What is the central idea of the story?

What major assertion does the story make of morality?

Does the title of the work direct you to the theme?

Does the story state the theme? Do you need to imply the meaning?

Does the theme relate to any traditional themes you have encountered in other reading?

What clues has the author used to communicate theme(s)?

Are there any symbols or important images in the story?

Is there a moral suggested by the outcome of the conflict?

Are there any general observations made by the author, narrator, or characters in the story?

Does the change in a character reflect an insight made by the character? What does the character learn?

Is anything that happens to the character similar to something that could happen to you?

What can you learn from the character's actions? How can this lesson be applied to everyone?

What is the Setting?

Geographical Location
The Daily Mannerisms of Living
The Time Period action
General Environment of Characters

What are the elements of the literary work?

Exposition
Conflict
Rising Action
Climax
Falling Action
Resolution

Discuss Characterization with

Protagonist
Antagonist
Static Character
Dynamic Character
Flat Character
Round Character

Theme

What is the theme/central idea of the literature?

Is the theme Stated?

(Where the author actually states the theme for the reader)

Is the theme Implied?

(Where the reader must determine the theme by examining every assertion the piece makes of moral, psychological, or aesthetic)

Point of View

Who is telling the story?

1st Person (participant)

3rd Person Omniscient
(nonparticipant)

3rd Person Limited
(nonparticipant)

Is the narrator a participant or nonparticipant in the story?

In nonparticipant, is it third-person limited? Third person omniscient?

If the story is told by a narrator, are there any clues that the narrator's attitudes might be different from the author's?

Is the narrator's view reliable?

Why is the author's choice of point of view the best choice for this story? Why or why not?