

Name: _____

English 8, Period _____

Date: _____

Inferences from *The Outsiders*

Directions: Read each quote from *The Outsiders*, then use your inference skills to infer what S.E. Hinton is saying for each one.

1. "And Johnny, who was the most law-abiding of us, now carried in his back pocket a six-inch switchblade. He'd use it, too, if he ever got jumped again. They had scared him that much. He would kill the next person who jumped him."

2. Ponyboy and Johnny run off to the park to "cool off" after Darry hits Ponyboy.

3. "I felt the blood draining from my face. I've been cussed out and sworn at, but nothing ever hit me like that did. Johnnycake made a kind of gasp and his eyes were smoldering."

4. "Bob, the handsome Soc, was lying there in the moonlight, doubled up and still. A dark pool was growing from him, spreading slowly over the blue-white cement. I looked at Johnny's hand. He was clutching his switchblade, and it was dark to the hilt."

5. "If that old church ever caught fire, there'd be no stopping it."

6. "The doctor told us that he would talk only to the family, but Darry finally got it through the guy's head that we were about as much family as Dally and Johnny had."

7. "I been carryin' around a heater. It ain't loaded, but it sure does help in a bluff."

8. "In our Ford I was suddenly overcome by sleepiness. I leaned back and closed my eyes and we were home before I knew it."

9. "Yeah, it just hurts sometimes. It usually don't... I can't feel anything below the middle of my back..."

10. "And don't get all juiced up, because the doc won't let us see you no more if you do."

11. "He always gets high before a rumble. Before anything else, too, come to think of it. I shook my head. I'd hate to see the day when I had to get my nerve from a can."

12. "The only weapons we ever used were knives, and shoot, we carried them mostly just for looks. Like Two-Bit with his black-handled switch."
