1. Which character trait does the actor portraying Johnny NOT exhibit?

A. defiance  
B. shock  
C. fear  
D. nervousness  

LA.910.2.1.5
The correct answer is A. Options B, C, and D are incorrect because they represent accurate interpretations of character, point of view, plot development, setting, conflict, or theme.

Character traits are the special qualities of personality that writers give their characters (page 842, Literary Terms). Character traits in a play are often noted in the stage directions. Option A is correct because Johnny is not asked to exhibit defiance. Instead, it is Ponyboy who is to behave in a defiant manner. As the reader learns by reading the stage directions on page 631, “PONYBOY. [defiantly] I fell asleep.” Option B is incorrect because Johnny exhibits shock. As the reader learns by reading the stage directions on page 632, “JOHNNY. [in shock] I killed him. I had to. He was drowning you.” Option C is incorrect because Johnny exhibits fear. As the reader learns by reading the stage directions on page 632, “JOHNNY. [scared] We’ve got to get out of here. Dally will help us.” Option D is incorrect because Johnny exhibits nervousness. As the reader learns by reading the stage directions on page 627, “JOHNNY. [nervously] I wish the Socs would stay in their part of town.”

2. Which is NOT an example of symbolism in the play?

F. sunrise and sunset  
G. the church  
H. a switchblade knife  
I. the country and the city  

LA.910.2.1.7
The correct answer is H. Options F, G, and I are incorrect because they represent examples of descriptive language or figurative language drawn from the text and related to the question being tested.

A symbol is a word or phrase that serves as an image of some person, place, thing, or action but that also calls to mind some other, usually broader, idea or range of ideas (page 851, Literary Terms). Option F is incorrect because this is an example of symbolism S. E. Hinton used in “The Outsiders.” Sunrise and sunset are symbols of unity and connection. As the reader learns on page 630, the topic of sunsets is part of the connection made between Ponyboy and Cherry after the movies. Cherry asks “Do you watch sunsets, Ponyboy?” to which he nods in response.
He begins to realize that all humans are linked through the natural world. As the reader learns on page 633 after their first night in hiding at the church, Johnny and Ponyboy watch the sunrise. Johnny says “That sure was pretty. The mist was gold and silver. It’s too bad it can’t stay like that.” Ponyboy then recites the poem "Nothing Gold Can Stay" by Robert Frost. The sunrise is a symbol for a new beginning—sunrise is the beginning of a new day and each day offers a chance to start over. **Option G** is incorrect because this is an example of symbolism S. E. Hinton used in “The Outsiders.” The church becomes a place for atonement or salvation for Johnny and Ponyboy when they rescue the schoolchildren from the fire and, by doing so, discover that they are courageous and brave in a way that makes a big difference—the teacher calls them “heroes.” **Option H** is correct because this is not an example of symbolism S. E. Hinton used in “The Outsiders.” The switchblade knife is just that, an easily concealed weapon used by the boys for protection or to attack their enemies. **Option I** is incorrect because this is an example of symbolism S. E. Hinton used in “The Outsiders.” The "country" seems to represent that place in Johnny and Pony's imagination where divisions like Soc and Greaser don't exist. As the reader learns on page 631, Ponyboy and Johnny are in the empty lot talking about the country before they fall asleep. Johnny says, “There’s got to be a place without Greasers or Socs.” Ponyboy replies, “There is—out in the country…” After the murder of Bob, Dallas suggests that Ponyboy and Johnny flee to Windrixville, in the country. While in the country, as a result of the church fire and their rescuing the children, they then return to the city as changed young men. All three discover the hero inside. In the country nobody seems to know they are Greasers or think these boys are different. As the reader learns on page 636, when in the ambulance Ponyboy says to the teacher, “No, we’re hoods. Johnny’s wanted for murder, and Dallas has a police record a mile long.” The teacher has no idea what he's talking about. He accepts Pony, Johnny, and Dallas at face value, based on their heroism.

3. Read the excerpt from the play.

**SCENE 2**

[The next night, DALLAS, PONYBOY, and JOHNNY sneak into an outdoor movie theater. Two Soc girls, CHERRY and MARCIA, sit in front of them. DALLAS puts his feet on CHERRY’s chair and makes rude remarks.]

**CHERRY.** Take your feet off my chair and shut up.

**DALLAS.** Who’ll make me?

Which part of the play script is shown in italics?

A. dialogue  
B. set directions  
C. scene number  
D. character name

**LA.910.2.2.1**  
The correct answer is **B.** Options A, C, and D are incorrect because they represent incorrect analysis and interpretation of text features.
Option A is incorrect because in a play dialogue follows the character’s name and is shown in regular type in upper- and lowercase letters, without any quotation marks. Option B is correct because in a play set directions are shown in italics. Stage directions explain how characters move, feel, act, or speak. They often answer the questions who, what, when, where, and how. Stage directions are written in italic type and are often set in brackets to set them apart from the dialogue. Option C is incorrect because in a play the scene number appears in unique type in all capital letters. Option D is incorrect because in a play characters’ names appear in boldface type written in all capital letters.

4. Look at the illustration on pages 624 and 625. If you were told that illustration was of a character in the play, and the setting of the illustration was two weeks after the end of the play, who is the boy shown in the illustration?

F. Bob  
G. Johnny  
H. Ponyboy  
I. Sodapop

LA.910.1.7.3  
The correct answer is H. Options F, G, and I are incorrect because they represent incorrect inferences or conclusions based on details found in the text.

Option F is incorrect because from the information in the play, this character would not appear alone in a country setting. Bob, a Soc, never appears alone in the play. He is always with other Socs. As the reader learns on page 630, “[A blue Mustang appears.] CHERRY. It’s Bob and Randy.” And, later, on page 632, “[Suddenly, the blue Mustang appears. Five Socs get out and stumble toward them. ...JOHNNY sees CHERRY’s boyfriend, Bob....]” If the illustration is two weeks after the end of the play, Bob could not appear in the country because he is killed by Johnny in scene 5 on page 632. Option G is incorrect because from the information in the play, this character would not appear alone in a country setting. Johnny dies a hero after the fire. If the illustration is two weeks after the end of the play, Johnny was already dead. Option H is correct because from the information in the play, this character would appear alone in a country setting. Ponyboy is described in the list of characters on page 626 as “dreamy.” Ponyboy was in the country in Windrixville with his friend Johnny. The illustration could be showing Ponyboy, back in the country, thinking about his now dead friend Johnny. Option I is incorrect because from the information in the play, this character would not appear alone in a country setting. Sodapop is described in the list of characters on page 626 as “happy-go-lucky.” Sodapop has no connection to the country nor does the reader have any reason to think that he’d be walking alone in contemplation in the forest.

5. S. E. Hinton included “Nothing Gold Can Stay,” a poem by Robert Frost, within her play, “The Outsiders” for many reasons. Which is NOT a reason why this poem was included?

A. to let the audience know that Ponyboy is a good student who can memorize poetry  
B. to provide the audience with the moral on the fleeting nature of life  
C. to give Johnny some wise final words to say at the end of the play as he is dying  
D. to give the audience an example of a text-to-text connection made by a character
The correct answer is C. Options A, B, and D are incorrect because they represent incorrect analysis or evaluation of the impact of the author’s purpose or perspective on the text.

**Option A** is incorrect because this could be a reason why the poem was included in the play. The author may have thought that readers/audience may think that the rich Socs were good students and the poor Greasers were poor students. By showing that a Greaser, Ponyboy, had memorized a poem and was not embarrassed to recite it to his friend, the author is showing that not only is Ponyboy a good student, but he is a mature teenager as well. **Option B** is incorrect because this could be a reason why the poem was included in the play. The recitation of the poem is sparked by the comment made by Johnny on page 634, “JOHNNY. That (the sunrise) sure was pretty. The mist was gold and silver. It’s too bad it can’t stay like that.” To Ponyboy, the poem has many messages – the sunrise lasts only a brief, but also that events in one’s life last only a brief period of time. **Option C** is correct because this would not be a reason why the poem was included in the play. As Johnny is dying he makes reference to the poem as the reader learns on page 640 when he says, “Stay gold, Ponyboy, stay gold…” This reference is profound; however, the author could have had Johnny say anything wise and lasting as he died. His final words did not have to be from Frost’s poem. **Option D** is incorrect because this could be a reason why the poem was included in the play. By including the poem, Hinton shows that what is read or studied in school does have a connection to “real life.” As the reader learns on page 714, in the Reading Handbook, a text-to-text connection occurs between the text you are reading and another selection you have read, a film you have seen, or a song you have heard. Sometimes the text you are reading might have a similar theme, or message, to something you’ve read, seen, or heard before. A text may also belong to a genre, such as mystery or biography that you are familiar with.

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**Edge Level B**

**Unit 7**

**Cluster 2**

**“If There Be Pain / Sonnet 30”**

6. Read the lines from the modern paraphrase of “Sonnet 30.”

   Then I cry, though I am not one who cries often,
   For my good friends who have died,

Who in “The Outsiders” cries for someone who has died?

F. Johnny cries because Bob has died.
G. Marcia cries because Randy has died.
H. Dallas cries for the children caught in the fire.
I. Darrel cries for his brother Sodapop.

**LA.910.2.1.5**
The correct answer is F. Options G, H, and I are incorrect because they represent inaccurate interpretations of character, point of view, plot development, setting, conflict, or theme.

The excerpt is found on page 647, lines 5 and 6. Option F is correct because Johnny does cry over the death of Bob. As the reader learns on page 632 in the stage direction, “[… When PONYBOY comes to, he sees BOB beside him, lying in a pool of blood.]” Then, the reader learns on page 633 about how Johnny feels when he speaks to Ponyboy, “JOHNNY. [crying] Shut up about last night! I killed a kid last night. You can go home—you didn’t kill him!’ Option G is incorrect because Randy did not die. Marcia was with Cherry at the outdoor movie, and, as the reader learns in the stage directions on page 630, “[Later, PONYBOY, JOHNNY, and TWO-BIT walk the girls home.] The mustang appears and Bob, Cherry’s boyfriend, and Randy get out. Bob, not Randy, is killed. Option H is incorrect because Dallas is at the church fire, but does not cry for the children. As the reader learns on page 635, Johnny and Ponyboy rescue all the children. As the reader learns on page 636, Dallas is hurt when he burns his arm, “TEACHER. They’re in an ambulance behind us. Dallas burned his arm. I don’t know how Johnny’s doing.” Option I is incorrect because Darryl cries over his brother Ponyboy, not their brother Sodapop. As the reader learns on page 636, “[PONYBOY notices DARREL is crying so he gives him a hug.] DARRYL. I thought we’d lost you, like we did Mom and Dad.”

7. Read the lyrics from the song, “If There Be Pain.”

If there be pain
All you have to do is call on me

Which lines from the play, “The Outsiders” express the same feelings?

A. “DALLAS. Hop the freight train to Windrixville. Find the abandoned church there. Buy a week’s supply of food, then sit tight. I’ll be there as soon as it’s safe.”
B. “DALLAS. …And Cherry says she’ll testify that the Socs were drunk and looking for a fight—that it was self-defense. …”
C. “PONYBOY. OK. If you get cold, come to our house.”
D. “JOHNNY. [in shock] I killed him. I had to. He was drowning you.”

LA.910.1.7.7
The correct answer is C. Options A, B, and D are incorrect because they represent facts and details drawn from the text but unrelated to the test question.

The excerpt is found on page 644, in lines 1 and 2 as well as lines 3 and 4. The song lyrics are saying: “If you need me/help, just ask and I will be there for you.” Option A is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same sentiment as the song lyrics. This excerpt is found on page 632. Dallas is telling Johnny and Ponyboy that he will come soon to see them in the church. Option B is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same sentiment as the song lyrics. This excerpt is found on page 635. Cherry is offering to tell the police the truth about what lead to the killing of Bob. Option C is correct because this excerpt expresses the same feelings as in the song. Ponyboy is telling his friend, if you need “warmth” which could mean because you are cold or you are lonely, come to me because I am there for you. The excerpt is found on page 631. Ponyboy speaks in response to Johnny who has decided to stay in
an empty lot: “JOHNNY. You’d better get home. I think I’ll stay here all night. My folks won’t care.” Option D is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same sentiment as the song lyrics. This excerpt is found on page 632. Johnny is saying that he acted in defense of his friend, Ponyboy. Ponyboy did not ask for his help; he was unconscious.

8. Read the lines from the play.

JOHNNY. I’m scared stiff. I don’t want to die now. Sixteen years isn’t long enough. There’s so much stuff I haven’t done yet.

Which excerpt from the song, the sonnet, or the play expresses the same thoughts?

F. “For without you here my joy is through”
G. “I regret that I did not achieve all that I wanted”
H. “SODAPOP. He’s just got more worries than someone his age ought to.”
I. “RANDY. [sadly] People get hurt in rumbles, even killed. It doesn’t matter who wins—you’ll still be at the bottom, and we’ll still be the lucky ones.”

The correct answer is G. Options F, H, and I are incorrect because they represent facts and details drawn from the text but unrelated to the test question.

The excerpt is found on page 638, and is spoken by Johnny who is dying from the burns he suffered when helping to rescue the children from the burning church. Option F is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same feelings as those said by Johnny. The excerpt is found on page 645 in the song “If There Be Pain.” Option G is correct because this excerpt expresses the same feelings as those said by Johnny. The excerpt is found on page 647 in the poem “Sonnet 30—A Modern Paraphrase.” Option H is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same feelings as those said by Johnny. The excerpt is found on page 627 in the play, and they are spoken by Sodapop to his brother Ponyboy about their older brother Darrel. Option I is incorrect because this excerpt does not express the same feelings as those said by Johnny. The excerpt is found on page 638 in the play, and they are spoken by Randy to Ponyboy on the day of the final rumble.

9. Which excerpt does NOT contain an example of alliteration?

A. “And with old woes new wail my dear time’s waste:”
B. “Every breath I breathe will be into you”
C. “Her hardest hue to hold.”
D. “And they hurt me more than ever before.”

The correct answer is D. Options A, B, and C are incorrect because they represent examples of descriptive language or figurative language drawn from the text related to the question being tested.
Alliteration is the repetition of the same sounds (usually consonants) at the beginning of words that are close together (page 842, Literary Terms). Option A is incorrect because the excerpt contains an example of alliteration. The excerpt is from “Sonnet 30” the original version and is found on page 646 in line 4. The author has repeated the same initial consonant sound of /w/ in the words woes, wail, and waste. Option B is incorrect because the excerpt contains an example of alliteration. The excerpt is from “If There Be Pain” and is found on page 645 in line 15. The author has repeated the same initial consonant blend sound /br/ in the words breath and breathe. Option C is incorrect because the excerpt contains an example of alliteration. The excerpt is from “Nothing Gold Can Stay” by Robert Frost which appears in “The Outsiders” on page 634. The author has repeated the same initial consonant sound /h/ in the words her, hardest, hue, and hold. Option D is correct because the excerpt does not contain an example of alliteration. The excerpt is from “Sonnet 30—A Modern Paraphrase” and is found on page 647 in line 12. This line contains a repetition of the /ore/ sound at the end of two words.

10. The song, “If There Be Pain” and the poem “Sonnet 30” are about friendship and the bond that forms between close friends. Which characters in “The Outsiders” do NOT seem to have a close friendship?

F. Cherry and Marcia  
G. Ponyboy and Johnny  
H. Dallas and Darryl  
I. Bob and Randy  

LA.910.2.1.5  
The correct answer is H. Options F, G, and I are incorrect because they represent inaccurate interpretations of character, point of view, plot development, setting, conflict, or theme.

Option F is incorrect because these two characters seem to have a close bond of friendship. As the reader learns on pages 628, 629, and 630 the Soc girls went to an outdoor movie together and began to walk home together with Ponyboy and Johnny. Option G is incorrect because these two characters seem to have a close bond of friendship. Ponyboy and Johnny are the main characters in the play and appear in all scenes except scenes 8, 9, and 11. Option H is correct because these two characters do not seem to have a close bond of friendship. Darryl is twenty years old and a serious person who is trying to keep his family (his brothers Sodapop and Ponyboy) together after the death of their parents. Dallas is a Greaser who has just gotten out of prison. These two characters appear together briefly in scene 1 and scene 11. Option I is incorrect because these two characters seem to have a close bond of friendship. Bob and Randy were best friends as the reader learns on page 637 when Randy says, “…Bob was my best buddy.”