

The setting/ world of the novel			
Novel/ author	'The Outsiders' by S.E. Hinton		
	The importance of this in the world of the book	Moment and quote from the novel	Impact (<i>effect it has</i>) on main character
Physical Location			
Place, country, time	Tulsa, Oklahoma (1965)		
Culture, social values			
Family structures and norms	In this book, the characters are very much in charge of their own lives (there is very little to no adult interaction or authority). The Socs and the greasers seem to make their own decisions and live by their own rules. They don't seem to spend much time with their family, or get on with them, much. The norms around then would've been for the father to always be out working and the mother to stay at home to mind the children.	"His father was always beating him up, and his mother ignored him." pg 14 (when Ponyboy is first introducing us to Johnny)	Ponyboy's parents are dead in the story, but from what I can gather, they seem to have been very loving, which would be a bit different from what other greasers would be accustomed to. Their parents would have been worried about money and might have even been abusive (we see this in Johnny's parents), so Ponyboy's description of them seems very different to the usual parental figures that you had at the time.
Gender Equalities and roles	Girls don't really come into the story that much, apart from Cherry. The norms around then would've been for the father to always be out working and the mother to stay at	"Of course, greasy girls would've acted a lot tougher, but there was a basic sameness." pg 45 (when Ponyboy is talking about how Cherry and Marcia	Boys were expected to be tough, and being a Greaser it was doubly hard, because you could get jumped. Ponyboy wasn't really like the others (he didn't carry a switchblade and he

	<p>home to mind the children. The girls didn't really get involved in gang warfare or anything like that.</p>	<p>were almost the same as them)</p>	<p>wasn't as tall as the others). He wasn't as corrupted by the social groups and the lifestyle as the rest were (he was still a bit innocent and naive) but he loses most of that by the end of the novel.</p>
<p>The importance of money Social divisions</p>	<p>If you're rich, you probably live on the East Side and are a Soc of some shape or form. If you're poor, you live on the West Side and are considered a Greaser. You were considered less if you were poor, and nothing good was expected of you (although they did expect you to turn up in prison one way or another). Money is always an important thing, but it shouldn't define us as people.</p>	<p>"I thought it was the money that separated us." pg 45 (when Cherry is talking to Ponyboy about what separates the Greasers from the Socs)</p>	<p>Since his family weren't exactly rich, Ponyboy lived on the West Side, making him a Greaser. The only good thing about this was he had a great community (not adultwise, as we see the kind of things that were considered normal on the West Side in Johnny's parents). Also, Ponyboy falls under an awful amount of criticism at school and outside of school due to his economic background.</p>
<p>Authority structures (who has power/ in charge)</p>	<p>The police seem to be the only form of authority in Tulsa, as we see in the tenth chapter when Dallas is killed by police. Parents don't really come into it, for varying reasons (Ponyboy's are dead, Johnny's don't care about him, the Socs' parents probably work more than actually spend time with their kids, etc.).</p>	<p>"... the policemen's guns spit fire into the night..." pg 184 (when Dally is shot by police)</p>	<p>I suppose Ponyboy was lucky to have nice parents for as long as he did, but that probably made losing them a lot harder (if they had treated him and his brothers the same as Johnny's parents treated Johnny, I don't think he would have been as upset).</p>
<p>Stereotypes</p>	<p>You're placed into</p>	<p>"Not like Socs, who</p>	<p>Stereotypically,</p>

	<p>different stereotyped groups based on your socio-economic background (if you're rich you're a Soc, if you're poor you're a greaser, etc.), and in each group there are certain customs and things that you are expected to do (e.g. greasers put grease in their hair and let it grow long/Socs are expected to be cold and emotionless, etc.). The entire gang warfare and hatred is based on stereotypes. And if you didn't fit into any of the stereotypes, then you didn't exist (there is no mention of anyone in the middle class, who weren't poor enough to live in the West Side or rich enough to live in the East Side in the novel).</p>	<p>jump greasers and wreck houses and throw beer blasts for kicks, and get editorials in the paper for being a public disgrace one day and an asset to society the next.” pg 3 (when Ponyboy is first explaining the Socs and the Greasers)</p>	<p>Greasers are considered to not be very academically inclined (most of them drop out of school before they can actually do anything). Ponyboy is quite smart, so he was moved up a grade in school. Greasers are also expected to be tough and Ponyboy might be brave, but at the beginning of the novel he definitely wouldn't have pulled a blade on anyone. He just about fits into the Greaser category, but he's smarter than most greasers and more understanding.</p>
<p>Education</p>	<p>Education isn't huge for Greasers (most of them drop out before they can do anything) and for Socs, it probably doesn't really matter to most of them because they could probably get their parents to find them good jobs. To any greaser wanting to move up in the world, however (like Darry and Ponyboy) then they would have to put a lot of work into school.</p>	<p>“... - I get put in A classes because I'm supposed to be smart...” pg 18 (when Ponyboy is talking about school)</p>	<p>Pretty much the same as written above, Ponyboy is smarter than most greasers and does very well in school, resulting in his being moved up a grade. Darry was also very good at academics and sports, and there's a comment in the book which says that the only thing keeping Darry from being a Soc was Soda and Ponyboy.</p>

<p>Crime/ conflict</p>	<p>Greasers were often described as juvenile delinquents. They were expected to end in prison before they turned eighteen. A prime example of how the conflict and crime affects people would be Dallas. The central plot pivots around the animosity between the Socs and the Greasers.</p>	<p>“Dally had spent three years on the wild side of New York and had been arrested at the age of ten. He was tougher than the rest of us - tougher, colder, meaner.” pg 12 (when Ponyboy is first introducing us to Dallas Winston)</p>	<p>I think that the conflict affected Ponyboy most when Bob was killed. The group of Socs attacked him and Johnny for basically no reason other than they were greasers and they had been talking to Cherry and Marcia. That was the event that set everything off. If that hadn’t happened, neither Johnny nor Dally would have died and the church wouldn’t have caught fire.</p>
<p>Mood/ atmosphere</p>			
<p>What type of atmosphere is in this world? Safe, scary, happy etc</p>	<p>Unsafe, scary, real. The atmosphere of the world is reflective of the world we live in today (not Ireland, per say, but definitely America). In America, kids can’t go to school without wondering if they’re going to get shot and killed. That’s how the greasers felt whenever they were walking home alone.</p>	<p>“It seems like there’s gotta be someplace without Greasers or Socs, with just people. Plain ordinary people.” pg 57 (when Ponyboy is walking home with Johnny and Two-Bit after letting Cherry and Marcia go home with Randy and Bob)</p>	<p>I think it’s very hard to imagine, seeing as I’ve never personally been in a situation like that, but I think it’s probably terrifying to be scared of walking home alone, even during daylight. It probably made Ponyboy very aware of his surroundings, and jumpy.</p>
<p>Would you like to live in this world? explain</p>	<p>Definitely not. You’re constantly looking over your shoulder, you don’t know whether you’re still going to be alive the next morning, and most of the time your parents pretty much hate you (judging off of how characters interact with their parents in the novel). It’s a cut-throat world and you never feel safe. I’d hate it.</p>		