7th Grade Summer Reading Response: *The Outsiders*

Student Name: ____________________________

Complete the Reading Project below for the required novel, *The Outsiders*. Bring your response with your novel to the first day of school.

You may handwrite or type your answers.

*The Outsiders*, written by S. E. Hinton, is a classic novel about a group of teenagers coming of age in the 1950s. Throughout the novel, the characters learn more about themselves, their place in society, and the connections they have with others. One of the great themes of *The Outsiders* is the development of personal identity.

Instructions:

Bring both activities to school to show completion of work:

1. **LIST OF CHARACTERS**
   - Make a list of at least 10 characters as you read and write brief notes about their traits and identities. Bring this page with you to school to be used for discussion purposes in class.

2. **CHARACTER IDENTITY WEB** for one character from the novel identifying specific traits.
   - Select one of the characters from your list of characters in *The Outsiders* and create an identity chart for that character.
   - Think about your character’s identity. Who are they? What are they like? Identify their various traits and qualities. Look back through the novel and mark examples. You can do this by placing small post-it notes on the page you find information or highlighting.
   - Look at Example #1. This is a guide illustrating the types of traits you can use. This can serve as reference for helping you plan what to identify for your character.
   - Develop a character web for your chosen character from the novel. See Example #2 which illustrates how to list specific traits. Your character web will look like Example #2 but you will find your own traits.
     - Write the character’s name from *The Outsiders* in the center of the web.
     - Add words and phrases that describe your character and connect them to the middle.
     - Write page numbers to identify where you found this information.
Example #1:
model of identifiers to include in an Identity Chart:

- Interests
- Possessions
- Creations
- Choices
- Values
- Beliefs
- Practices
- Habits
- Ethnicity
- Appearance

Example #2

Character's Name

- 15 year old boy - p. 22
- Hardworking - p. 36
- Brother - p. 5
- Worrier - p. 66
- Kind - p. 87
- Mature - p. 72
- Independent - p. 93
- Quiet - p. 31
- Smart - p. 43
- Risk taker - p. 27