

### **Pre-Debate**

Students were asked to read the book *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. *The Outsiders* deals with two rival gangs, the Greasers and the Socials, who end up fighting with each other. The book deals with universal themes involving friendship, trust, tolerance, and personal growth, among others.

Reading assignments were given nightly and followed up in class with traditional and alternative assessments involving graphic organizers, writings, drawings, and music and cooperatively structured activities such as Think-Pair-Share, Numbered Heads, and Roundtable. Students often worked with partners or their cooperative base groups to complete these assessments. Students were also shown relevant scenes from the movie “The Outsiders” and asked to compare and contrast them to the corresponding scenes in the book.