Choose one of these topics. Write a complete paragraph explaining your idea. Use the book to provide textual support as PROOF that you are correct. Parenthetical Citations!

1. Discuss why gang members are important to one another.
2. What does Cherry mean by saying “Things are rough all over”?
3. Explain how Greasers and Socs are SIMILAR to one another.
4. One theme in The Outsiders is that all humans need people to care about them. Do you agree?
5. Pick one character and explain why s/he is your favorite at this point in the novel.

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| FORMAT | Indented, period marks and capital letters, correct punctuation used, neat and professional | Some mistakes in formatting | Needs great attention to formatting |
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| CONTENT | Question is answered completely. | Minimal answer is given to question. | Incomplete answer is given – or question isn’t answered at all. |
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| PERSONAL CONNECTION | Explains personal connection and highlights specific aspects of the novel that are personally important. | Basic explanation given for personal connection. | Personal connection is unclear or absent. |
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| TEXTUAL SUPPORT | Uses at least 3 pieces of text as support.  Correctly punctuated. | Uses less than 3 pieces of text.  Punctuation is almost correct. | Does not use pieces of text for support.  Punctuation is incorrect. |
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| NOTES: | | | |