

Possible Essay Topics for English 1 Mid-Term Exam

1. (LotF) Jack gains power over many of the boys by exploiting their fear of the mythical beast. How does Jack manipulate the myth of the beast to legitimize his authority?
2. (LotF) Discuss the differences in Jack's and Ralph's leadership. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in each style. Which style do you think was more effective, given the circumstances? Which would you have followed?
3. (Outsiders) How do Ponyboy's feelings toward Randy reflect the conflict between the Socs and the Greasers?
4. (Outsiders) Discuss the relationship between Ponyboy and Darry, and how it changes over the course of the novel.