English 9

THE OUTSIDERS

RESEARCHING HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Introduction: The Outsiders was written and takes place in the 1960’s. In order to better understand the characters, their motivation and the setting they live in, it is important to provide context. The novel mentions many aspects of teenage life in 1960’s america – from the cars they drive to the way they style their hair. It is also important to consider what was happening politically at the time both domestically and internationally.

In small groups you will research ONE aspect of “LIFE IN 1960’s OKLAHOMA”. In your group, you will create a short presentation to share with the class. This presentation can be done on chart paper, produced digitally (powerpoint, keynote, etc...)and should include a mix of text (writing) and images (pictures)

TOPICS:

1960’s Fashion (be sure to include hair styles)

1960’s Cars (cars are common “motif” in the novel

1960’s Entertainment (films, celebrities, what did teens do for fun?)

1960’s War + political conflict (what was happening in America at this time)

1960’s Music – (music was a huge factor in creating a “collective conciousness” in the 60’s