



ANSWERS

Darry, Soda, and Ponyboy are brothers. They are trying to stay together. Darry is struggling to be their parent. The boys come to expect different things from each other over the course of the story.

The greasers are a substitute family; for many, the support of the gang is a replacement for their missing, negligent, or abusive parents. The juxtaposition of Ponyboy's actual family (his brothers) with his surrogate family (his gang "brothers") help Ponyboy realize how lucky he is to have a family.