

Growing a Theme:

From a Topic to a Solid Theme Statement

Topics for Theme

Kindness

Love

Sadness

Hate

Jealousy

Cleverness

Patience

Perseverance

Power

Corruption

Courage

Heroism

Identity

Knowledge

Loneliness

Hope

Honor

Sacrifice

Manipulation

*Man vs. Nature

Greed

Oppression

Optimism

Pride

Beauty

Materialism

Chaos vs. Order

Traditions

Communication

Empowerment

Vices

Desire

Rebellion

Circle of Life

Faith

Fear

Patriotism/Nationalism

Technology

Time

Disillusionment vs. Dreams

Selfishness vs. Selflessness

Innocence vs. Experience

Simplicity

Self-Discipline

Misunderstanding

Revenge

Revolution

Regret

Topics for Theme

Survival

Prejudice

Racism

Wisdom

Ignorance

Coming of Age

Death

Sanity

Consequence

Adversity

Individualism

Trust

Role

Self-Awareness

Self-Preservation

Self-Reliance

Social Mobility

Poverty

Vanity

Wealth

Will

Arrogance

Betrayal

Beliefs

Greed

Technology

Time

Dedication

Violence

Wisdom

Simplicity

Self-Discipline

Sanity

Revenge

Revolution

Regret

Freedom

Peace

Liberty

Solitude

Failure

Family

Human Nature

Mercy

Destruction

Deconstruction

Opportunity

War

Topic to Theme

- Topic = Friendship
- Theme = Friendship can help pull you through the most difficult times.

Topic to Theme

- Topic = Time
- Theme = Time is limited, make the most out of it.

Topic to Theme

- Topic = Kindness
- Theme = A little kindness goes a long way.

Topic to Theme

- Topic = Power
- Theme = Power is the root of all evil.

Topic to Theme

- Topic = Hate
- Theme = Hate will poison one's soul.

Task:

Create a solid theme statement for each one of the topics found in *The Outsiders*. Then find at least two examples from the text to support your theme statement.

- Topic = Money
- Topic = Family or Friends
- Topic = Identity