The Outsiders-Loss of Innocence

Directions: Throughout the novel, the topic of losing one's innocence is presented in a variety of ways. This is idea has been the topic of many literary and visual pieces of artwork throughout history, including the biblical story of Adam and Eve being banished from the Garden of Eden. We have also seen this as a central topic in the poem, "Nothing Gold Can Stay" by Robert Frost, and the S.E. Hinton novel, *The Outsiders*.

Look carefully at both pictures, and complete the "I Know, I Notice, I Wonder" chart. After recording your observations, discuss your ideas with a partner.

Picture A

Picture B





	l Know	I Notice	I Wonder
Picture A			
Picture B			

Loss of Innocence continued: Answer in thoughtful complete sentences.

1. Do you think these two pictures are good representations of humans losing their innocence? Be clear by citing specific details from the illustrations.

2. In the poem, "Nothing Gold Can Stay," how does Robert Frost try to convey the idea of losing innocence? What words or phrases does he use to help the reader understand his message?

Nature's first green is gold, Her hardest hue to hold. Her early leafs a flower; But only so an hour. Then leaf subsides to leaf. So Eden sank to grief, So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay. Robert Frost, 1920

3. Re-read the poem. Why do you think Robert Frost refers to "Eden" in line six? How does it relate to the pictures of Adam and Eve being banished from the Garden of Eden? Why is it significant?

4. How does S.E. Hinton convey loss of innocence in the novel, *The Outsiders*? Be clear by citing specific plot events.

5. In your opinion, which is the best representation of humans losing their innocence; the illustrations, the poem, or the novel? Be specific and cite reasons for your opinion.

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6. With a partner, discuss your responses. List the responses you had in common and the ones that were different.

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Common_____
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Different_____