Name:

Thurston/Dzinski

Literacy

Date:

Analyzing the Theme: ***The Outsiders***

Think back to when we analyzed the theme of “Hearts and Hands” and the process we walked through together. Let’s use a similar process with our novel. Find a partner and complete the following questions.

1. The first step in finding theme is to think about the plot. Isolate important events from the novel that are things that happened and not “life lessons” for the reader.
   1. Exposition:
   2. Hook:
   3. Rising Action (three important events)
   4. Climax:
   5. Falling Action:
   6. Resolution:
2. None of the items listed above can be theme. They are all events. Now it’s time to think about topics covered in the novel. Topics must be listed as single words. See if you can come up with two topics.
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Now you are ready to think about theme. Theme is a big idea or an underlying lesson that the author was trying to get across to the reader. Build a sentence that starts with one of your topics that gives a general statement that can be applied to real life.