**That Was Then, This Is Now**

**By S.E. Hinton**

**Objective:** To increase student reading ability, critical thinking skills, and the applicability of such skills.

**Sources:** That Was Then, This Is Now by S.E. Hinton, Teacher resources, <http://wiki.answers.com/Q/That_Was_Then_This_Is_Now_Plot_Summary>

<http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=S+E+Hinton&aq=f>

**Standards and Benchmarks:** I, II, III (All)

**Week 1:**

Introduction to S.E. Hinton. Students do a web quest on S.E. Hinton, read the information, and share an interesting fact with the class.

Watch an interview of S.E. Hinton from youtube (<http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=S+E+Hinton&aq=f>).

Discuss: What is a plot? Setting? Character description. Students and teacher discuss the plot overview for That Was Then, This Is Now (<http://wiki.answers.com/Q/That_Was_Then_This_Is_Now_Plot_Summary>).

Read: Chapters 1-4.

**Week 2:**

Discuss: Students get into literature circles and discuss chapters 1-4.

Web site: Students read chapter summary for chapters 1-4 and discuss any points they missed: <http://wiki.answers.com/Q/That_Was_Then_This_Is_Now_Plot_Summary>.

Students begin a character map. This will be ongoing as more characters are introduced into the story.

Read: Chapters 5-8

Notes: Students take two-column notes on chapters 1-8.

Questions: From the two-column notes the students come up with two open ended questions, which will be answered by a partner.

Discuss: Students discuss and compare the significance of the relationship of That Was Then, This Is Now and the Outsiders. Students then predict the course the book will take in the next chapters.

Week 3:

Read Chapters 9-10.

Students analyze Bryon and how his relationship and Mark’s are dependent on one another.

Writing: Students write story (imaginary or not) of a friend who was involved in drugs. What would they do? Would they follow Bryon’s example or would they take another road? Students must defend their actions and their decisions.

Students read Chapter analysis of Ch. 9-10 on <http://wiki.answers.com/Q/That_Was_Then_This_Is_Now_Plot_Summary>

**Week 4:**

Web quest: Students research the Vietnam War. What was the cause? What were some of the experiences of soldiers who survived the Vietnam War? What were some of the problems the soldiers faced when they returned to the United States?

Students get in literature circles and discuss what occurred in the chapters to this point. Apply their research and discuss what they had learned from their web quests and apply it to That Was Then, This Is Now.

Poster: Students create a poster of events which have occurred in the book. Students collect pictures which depict events as they see them. Students label the sequence of events for each picture.

**Week 5:**

Activity 5: Writing Practice (from teacher resources).

Activity 9: Plot Twists (from teacher resources).

View: Movie of That Was Then, This Is Now.

Students write a five page compilation paper: Comparing and Contrasting the book, the movie, and life today. Students must have a poster with pictures depicting events from all three.