

Name _____

Tough Choices

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary—students might say they relate to Ponyboy’s idea of toughness because they believe in kindness or to Johnny’s because they believe in standing up for others.
2. Some might say being tough means standing up for yourself, while others might say it means being brave enough to show emotions.
3. Dally’s toughness leads him to trouble, while Johnny’s toughness helps him become a hero. Ponyboy’s version of toughness helps him grow and tell his story.
4. Answers will vary—students might say toughness means protecting friends, staying hopeful, or making smart choices.

