

Chapter 5

Allusions Imagery

Objective: Understanding how allusions and imagery create meaning in a literary text

Activity

On pages 76 – 77, Ponyboy wakes early, sits on the steps of the church, and watches the approach of dawn. He says he wishes he “had some paint to do a picture with while the sight was still fresh in [his] mind.” (Pg. 77)

When Johnny arrives, Ponyboy makes an allusion to Robert Frost’s poem “Nothing Gold Can Stay.”

Nature’s first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf’s 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

1. Create a picture of the sunrise as Ponyboy describes it on page 77.
2. Write a two-paragraph essay discussing the meaning of Robert Frost’s poem and its relationship to Ponyboy’s present situation.