

**Using superlatives and connectives effectively**

The following two statements both need finishing. You are asked to choose the correct superlative for the sentence. Superlative adjectives are used when we are comparing more than two things.

1. Ponyboy is the youngest / oldest / ugliest person at the rumble.
2. Darry might be asked to start the fight because he is the oldest / youngest / strongest.

Connectives are used to join two parts of a sentence together. The most common connectives are 'and' and 'but'. Here are two examples from *The Outsiders*:

1. 'We look hoody and they look decent.'
2. 'I looked for Randy but didn't see him.'

Using a range of connectives in your writing will make it more interesting. Match up the following halves of sentences using the connectives. Only use each connective once:

although                  after                  because                  before                  when

Darry and Paul Holden start the rumble	Dally is pulled over by a police officer.
Two-bit grins happily at the end of the fight	before he dies.
Ponyboy pretends he has fallen off his motorbike	they had been best friends in school.
Johnny tells Ponyboy to 'stay gold'	he begs Johnny not to die.
Dally runs from the hospital room	the socs have been beaten.

What other connectives can you think of? Make a list for future reference.