

The Breakfast Club Post Viewing Assignment

The Breakfast Club

A **clique** is an exclusive group of people who share common interests, views, purposes, patterns of behavior, or ethnicity.

Group Discussion Questions

- 1) What are some common high school cliques?
- 2) Which student represents which social clique?
- 3) What happens to the group identity of each student by the end of the film?
- 4) Does DMCI have cliques? What are they?
- 5) Can a person move from one clique to another and if so then how?
- 6) Why do you think cliques form?
- 7) Are cliques good or bad, explain?
- 8) Did you or do you currently belong to a clique?
- 9) What is a Stereotype?

As we watched the movie "The Breakfast Club" we noticed many forms of conflict. There was conflict between the students and the principal, with the janitor, between the students and we heard inferences of conflict with parents and peers.

As we learn more about who the main characters are through how they interact with others and when they reveal their inner secrets, we begin to develop an understanding of why they are involved in conflict which is what eventually led them all to be in detention on Saturday.

They soon discover that they all have strained relationships with their parents and are afraid of making the same mistakes as the adults around them. However, despite these developing friendships the students are afraid that once the detention is over, they will return to their very different cliques and never speak to each other again. The stereotypes will remain.

Brian writes a very motivating letter that is in essence, the main point of the story. He signs the essay as "The Breakfast Club" and leaves it at the table for Mr. Vernon to read when they leave. There are two versions of this letter, one read at the beginning and one at the end, which are slightly different; illustrating the change in the students' judgments of one another and their realization that they truly have things in common.

Stereotypes: loner/basket case, jock/athlete, juvenile delinquent/criminal, nerd/ brain, princess/preppie

Themes: accountability, identity, punishment, stereotypes, discipline, consequences, embarrassment, deception, lying, denial, honesty, bullying, shame, guilt, abuse, cruelty, friendship, conflict.

