Lessons Learned from Darry, from *The Outsiders*,by S.E. Hinton

There were many hardships Darry went through in *The Outsiders* to help others, and he also learned how to better feel for others. From his actions and his character change, I learned many lessons. The most important lesson I learned from Darry in *The Outsiders* was to to understand others’ feelings and to not just criticize the for doing something that is right in their mind. Throughout most of the book, Darry is yelling at Ponyboy to do better at school, and he constantly tells him that he should be doing something else than he is already doing, such as on page 13, where Ponyboy says, “I could never please [Darry]. (…) If I was playing football, I should be in studying, and if I was reading, I should be out playing football.” This passage implies how enforcing Darry is and how he never stops to feel how Ponyboy thinks that he is doing what he is supposed to. Darry always wants him to do the opposite of what he is doing.

The second lesson I learned from Darry was that sometimes sacrifices must be made to help others’. Darry could have gone to college and gotten a decent job, leaving Ponyboy and Sodapop behind to fend for themselves, but instead he gives up his life’s success so that Ponyboy can succeed in his life. Darry is already a guardian of his two brothers, and he is only 20 years old. Instead of following his opportunity to further educate himself and become richer, he basically throws away his interests to care for his brothers.