**Breakfast Club Reflection Questions**

In *The Breakfast Club*, a group of teenagers are assigned a day of Saturday school as punishment for their behavior in school. Throughout the day, the group experiences varying degrees of social interaction ranging from arguments to hugs and kisses. Ultimately, the teens bond together and even give themselves a name – The Breakfast Club.

1. Typically**, conflict** is thought of as a bad thing. However, sometimes some good can emerge from conflict. For example, during WWII the U.S. and U.S.S.R. were able to put aside their differences to unite and defeat a common enemy in Germany. How does the teens’ conflict with Principal Vernon help to unite the group? In what ways does the group **cooperate** with one another in order to reach a common goal?

2. A major focus of sociologists is the concept of **social exchange**. In this exchange, an individual or group performs a certain action with the expectation of getting a reward in return. Describe two instances of social exchange that occurred in the movie.

3. **Coercion** and **conformity** and two powerful forces that have an impact on everyone’s life at some point. Describe one scene in the film where coercion occurs. Also, pick one of the teens and describe how they have conformed to society’s expectations of them.

4. In *The Breakfast Club*, Shermer High School serves as the **formal organization** to which all of the teens belonged. Who has **power** within this formal organization? Do those who hold power also have the **authority** to use it?

5. In an **informal organization**, personal relationships are formed by norms, beliefs and attitudes that are not necessarily in alignment with those of the formal organization. Are the teens in the film an informal organization? If so, what makes them one? If not, then what is missing?