A peer is someone who is equal to another in age, background, and social status. Who are your peers? Do you ever feel pressure to dress or to act like your peers? Have you ever done anything you didn’t want to do because of peer pressure? Do you think young children, teens, or adults are more likely to be affected by peer pressure and why?

Slang, a vocabulary particular to a group, class, or profession can make a story seem authentic. Here is a list of some of the slang expressions found in this novel. What do you think each one means? Which ones seem old-fashioned? Do you know any current expressions which are similar to these?

* Greaser
* To dig something
* To bug someone
* Blade
* Heater
* Rumble
* Half-crocked
* To know the score
* A chip off the old block
* Weed
* Play chicken
* Fuzz
* Boozehound