

Name:



Abbildung 1

The Outsiders – kooperatives Lernen mit einer Klassenlektüre

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1. Historical background

About the book: Written by Susan Hinton at the age of 17. *The Outsiders* was inspired by real-life events at Hinton's high school in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tension existed between social classes. The Socs and the Greaser are fighting.

Greasers:

The **greaser** thing was merely a fashion statement. They were **in many ways the American equivalent to British rockers**: kids from working-class families that sort of stayed within their social group, and adopted a certain look. Greasers and rockers were originally just poor kids who really couldn't afford nice clothing, so they'd wear their work clothes all the time. Tank tops and tee shirts weren't considered appropriate clothing to wear in public, but they were perfectly fine for factories, auto shops, etc. Denim was cheap and utilitarian, and the now-iconic cuffed jeans started because these guys usually had to buy pants that were a few sizes too large, or had belonged to their older brother, etc.

Rockers and greasers are also often associated with motorcycles and that culture, and this too stems from bikes being cheap, available, and easy to maintain, as odds were at least one guy in the group worked as a mechanic, or was at least mechanically-inclined, something you just didn't see as much within groups of clean-cut teenagers from wealthier backgrounds. Same goes for getting away with smoking and drinking. And I guess fighting in public if you had to look out for your friends. Asserting yourself within a group has always meant something different for every social class around the world. Some greasers are engaged in certain illegal activities. Just because you looked like a greaser, didn't mean you were in an organized gang.¹

Video: [Mods und Rocker - legendäre Kontrahenten - Rockabilly Rules Magazin \(rockabilly-rules.com\)](https://www.rockabilly-rules.com/)²

MODS	ROCKERS
Reject the style and taste of the parents	Reject the style and taste of the parents
Wanted to look smart, so nobody could tell that they come from the working class	Motorbikes
Name comes from <i>Modernists</i>	Defines their styles through wild American Rock'n'Roll styles of the 50's like Elvis.
Drive Vespas or Lambrettas	Engines, leather jackets were essential
Rockers were out of date for them and dirty, called them greasers	
Enemies to the rockers – clash in Brighton in 1964	
Became Skinheads later	

Rock music grew in popularity -- Elvis was more popular among the greasers and The Beatles were more popular among the soc's.

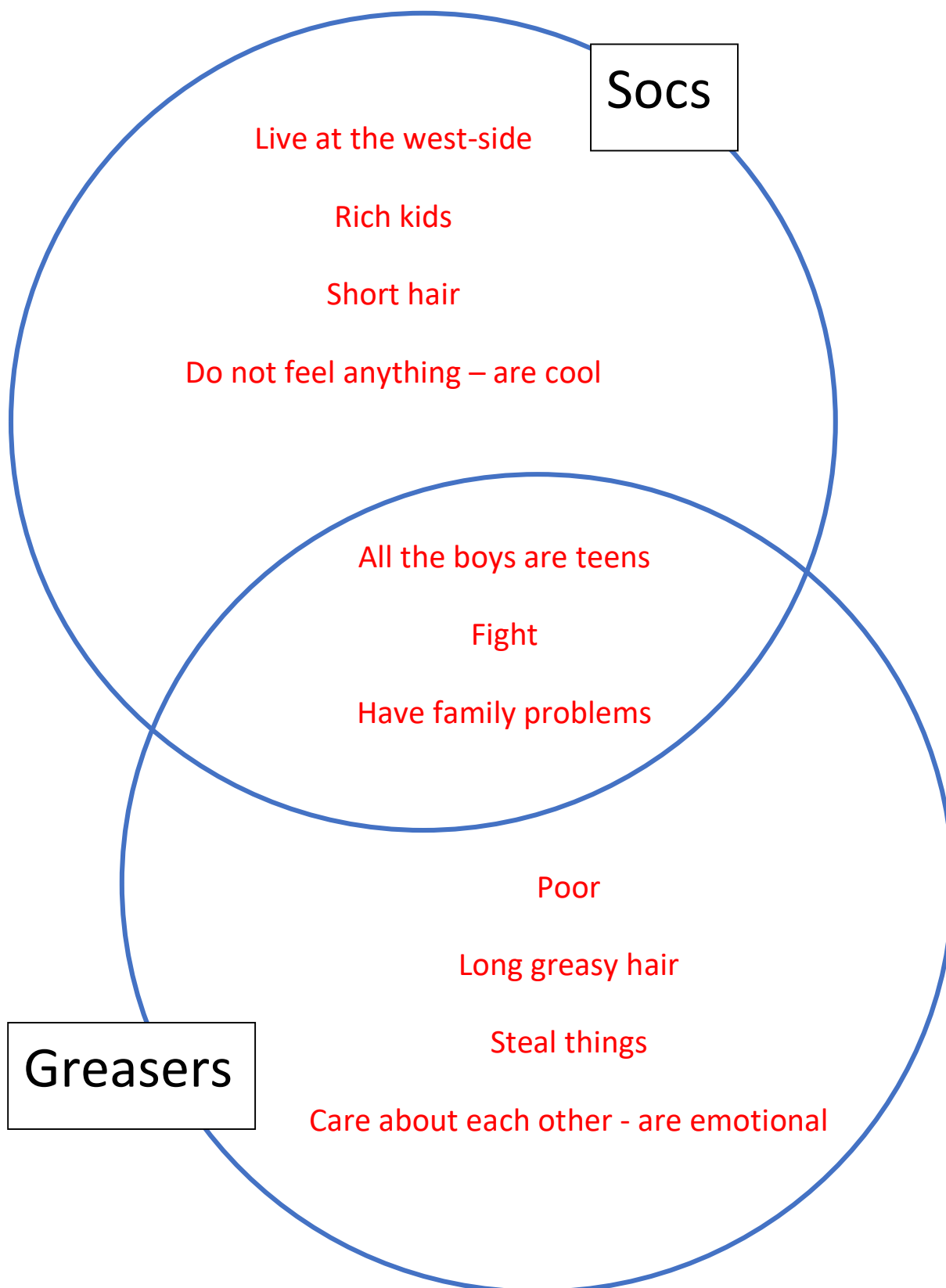
¹ (Norton, 2012)

² (Jooss, 2014)

2. Greasers

	DARRY	SODA	STEVE	TWO-BIT	DALLY	JOHNNY	PONYBOY
Age	Oldest brother of Pony Twenty years old	Second-oldest brother of Pony 16 years old	seventeen	The oldest of the gang Eighteen and a half years old		Youngest beside Pony	14 years old
Eyes	eyes are cold	Dark-brown eyes		Gray eyes	His eyes were like blue ice	Big black eyes	Greenish-gray eyes
Hair	-	Dark-gold hair	thick grasy hair		Hair is white	Black greasy hair	Light-brown, almost red, long hair,
Body height	six-feet-two tall			Six feet tall		Smaller than the rest	
Mood	always happy			Wide grin	Hates the whole world Arrested at the age of ten Tougher, colder, meaner than the rest = Dallas Winston Had small, sharp animal teeth	Nervous look Has it rough at home His father beats him His mother ignored him	Reads books Has an high IQ
other	Real name: Darrel very strong tough, cool, smart	Handsome	smart and Soda's best friend knows everything about cars works together with Soda	Famous for shoplifting and his switchblade Likes fights and school			

3. Socs vs Greasers



4. Gangs: Safety or danger?

- a) Why do people form gangs?
Same age, interests, to break away from the parental home, to exchange ideas
- b) Talk about your experiences: What typical behaviors are the result of peer pressure?
- c) What is important to the Greasers as a gang? What is the relationship between the members?
Friendship and security. They stick together.
- d) What is important to the Socs as a gang? What is the relationship between the members?
They are the rich kids. They have money, cars and a future.
- e) Why is violence a mean to settle a dispute (Konflikt austragen)?
Violence never ends a conflict; it is only a short-term solution. Violence is followed by more violence
- f) Cherry and Marcia belong to the Socs. Why is it that Ponyboy gets on well (versteht sich) with Cherry?
He has stereotyped Socs based on what he and his friends have experienced. Ponyboy has not known any Socs to be kind or even sensitive. Ponyboy and Cherry get on well because they are honest with each other, they are open and can talk civilized and polite conversations.

Gangs offer an opportunity...	In a problematic environment, gangs can
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To break away from the parental home ○ to test one's own limits ○ to learn how to deal with others ○ to experience the transition to adulthood first in protected space of peers ○ to exchange ideas about problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ lead young people to violent acts, drug use and risky behaviour ○ exert a damaging influence, especially on young people with a weak identity, through identity, through initiation rituals, tests of courage and blackmail.

5. Crossword

The activity is based on chapter 1 and 2 of the book *The Outsiders*. You will do the collaborative crossword puzzle in your group. To do the whole crossword puzzle every student needs information from the rest of the group.

15→	P	R	I	S	O	N				23↓				
20↓	2→	R	A	R	E	L	Y	6→	S	M	A	R	T	
H				11↓				18↓		U				
A				C				L	12↓	S			24↓	
N		13→	S	H	O	P	L	I	F	T	I	N	G	19↓
D				I			9↓	E	O	A			E	S
S				N	22↓		C		R	N			N	K
O					B		H		E	G			T	I
M	3↓				U		E		H			7↓	L	P
E	J	16→	A	R	R	E	S	T	E	D		G	Y	P
	U	21↓	4↓		I		T		A			R		E
	M	G	S		E				D			A		D
17→	P	R	O	U	D							D		
	E	I	C		1↓		14→	M	E	A	N	E	R	
	D	N	S	10→	T	H	R	O	A	T		S		
					O									
	5→	T	R	O	U	B	L	E						
					G									
					H		8→	S	C	A	R	E	D	

1. another word for *hard, mean, without sympathy* = tough
2. not often = rarely
3. Greasers can't walk alone or they'll get = jumped
4. The short form of *Socials* = Socs
5. you can get into ... with the police, if you do something illegal = trouble
6. ... kids usually get good grades = smart
7. smart kids usually get good ... = grades
8. to be afraid of something = scared
9. front part of a person's upper body = chest
10. front part of the neck = throat
11. part of the face below the mouth = chin
12. part of the face above the eyes and nose = forehead
13. take something from a shop without paying = shoplifting
14. mean, ..., the meanest = meaner

15. you can only go out of ... after being arrested = prison
16. you can only go out of prison after being ... = arrested
17. feeling deep pleasure or satisfaction as a result of one's own achievements = proud
18. not tell the truth = lie
19. I ... a grade at school = skipped
20. good-looking = handsome
21. to smile = grin
22. a dead person gets ... = buried
23. an American car model = Mustang
24. very carefully = gently

6. Gangs: a replacement for family?

Why aren't friends the same as having parents who care about you?

Think about the question above. What is your opinion? The following keywords may help you. Write down everything that crosses your mind.

Why is family important / or not?

Why are friends important / or not?

For Johnny the gang is important than his parents. Why?

What is more important to you – friends or parents? Why?

7. Living conditions

Read the following text about living conditions to your group.

The social environment plays a major role in a person's behavior. Besides the **level of education** and **income**, **housing conditions** are particularly significant. Above all, they influence a person's standing in society. Basically - and this also applies to Switzerland - there is a clear difference between life in the countryside and life in the big city. Children and young people in particular are often severely weakened in their free development in a big city. Moreover, the **'dangers'** (**road traffic, crime, drugs, environmental pollution...**) are usually greater in a big city than in the countryside. There is no doubt that big cities offer more opportunities for **leisure activities**, e.g. in the cultural field.³

Highlight all the living conditions that you can examine (untersuchen) in the text.

Choose a city where *The Outsiders* could have taken part. Analyze its living conditions.

City:

Living condition:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.³ (Zons, 2014)

8. Experts

Experts on places, relations and vocabulary for chapter 6.

Expert on relations

1. Who is present in this chapter? How would you qualify their relation?
Johnny, Ponyboy, Dally, schoolkids, Jerry Wood, Mrs. O'Briant (teacher), Soda, Darry
2. How can Johnny and Dallas be heroes and criminals at the same time? They are the same people. How is that possible?
They feel responsible of the fire (criminal) but they also saved innocent children (hero)
3. Ponyboy always thought Darry was hard and unfeeling. Why does he change his mind at the end of chapter 6? p.56
Darry started crying. Pony recognize that Darry cares about him, he shows it in a different way. Pony starts to see, that Darry is afraid to lose another family member.

Expert on places

4. Describe all the places in this chapter.
Restaurant, church that burns (burning pieces of wood fall, smoke, falls down), ambulance, hospital, waiting room
5. What do the people do in those places? What happened there?
**Eat sandwiches.
Save children from fire.**
6. Try to draw a map that summarizes what happened in this chapter?

Vocabulary boss

7. Find words that you and your colleagues may find difficult.
Cough, pass out, stare, sight, court...
8. Try to understand what they mean.
9. Find a way to explain them to your colleagues in English. Draw or act...

9. Change of perspective

"We needed Johnny as much as he needed the gang. And for the same reason." P.64

Analyze the quote. Write a dialogue about Johnny. How do other people see him?

Parents: beat him, don't care about him

Socs: he killed Bob, a Soc. They beat him up once, ever since Johnny is even more terrified.

Greasers: are his friends, he is a member of the gang. He is a timid boy; each member of the Greasers admires and loves him. He is different to the other members of the gang; he is soft and timid. As the others he doesn't fit in at school, lacks parental support, is poor. They all share the same circumstances. Johnny is patient, always there to listen to the boys when they cry about their difficult lives. If the Greasers lost Johnny, they would be losing a member of their family. The gang needs Johnny to confess and take care of as much as he needs them to protect and offer him kindness.

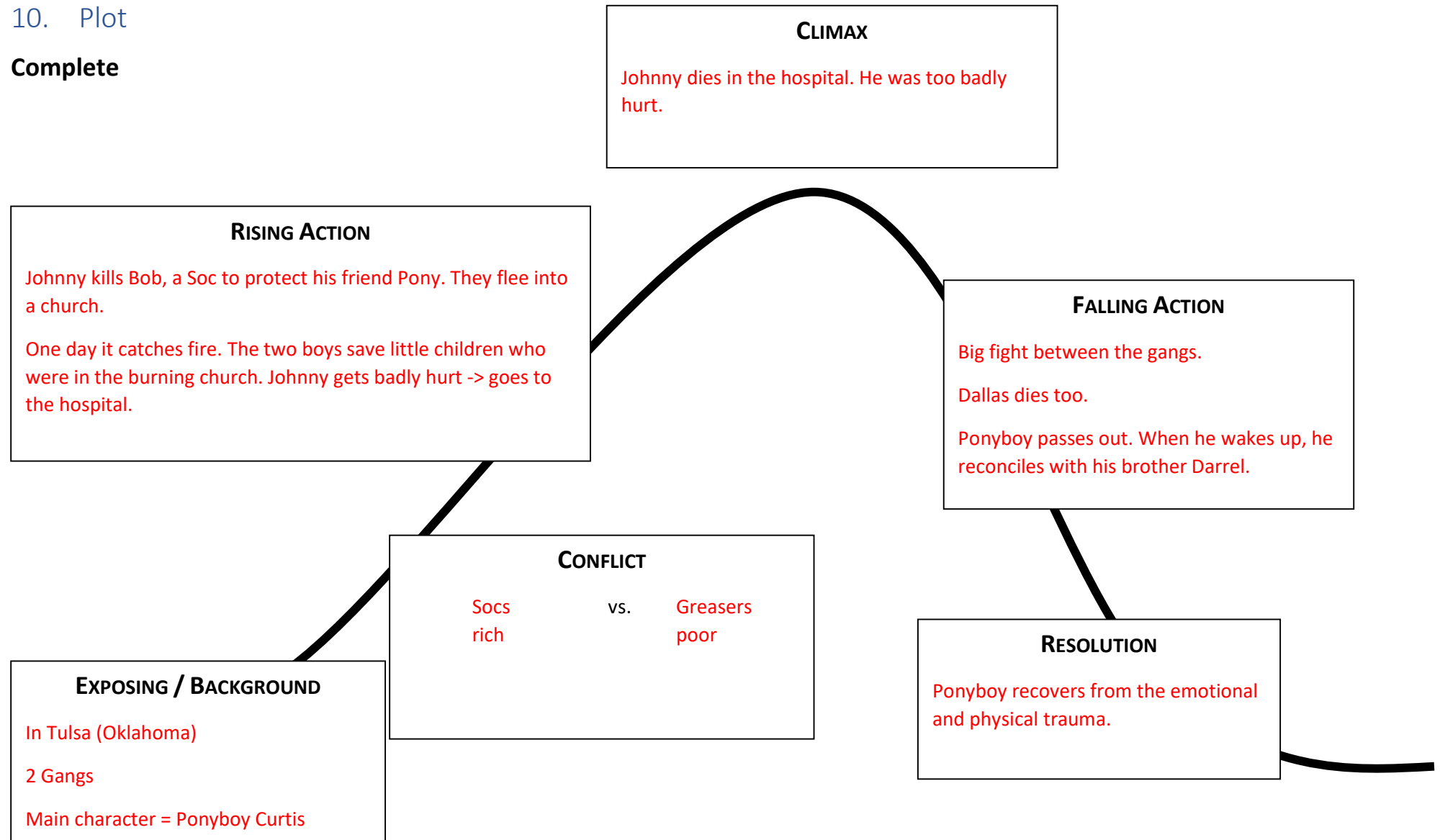
Pony: he fled with Johnny after the murder. They have lived difficult times together.

Teacher: a hero, because he saved the children in the church.

[illegible]

10. Plot

Complete



11. Similarities / differences

What does the book have to do with you? Complete the tables.

INTERESTS OF THE GREASERS	YOUR INTERESTS

DIFFERENCES	SIMILARITIES

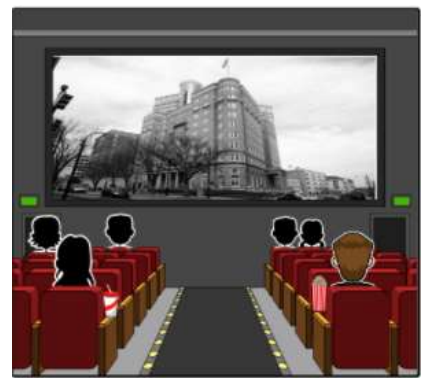
You have now finished reading the book. What is the moral of the story?

Stand up for what is right

We are all different, but inside we are all the same, we have many things in common -> look behind stereotypes

(Cherry and Pony for example belong to different gangs, but share the same values)

Anhang



Abbildungen 2

Literaturverzeichnis

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Abbildungsverzeichnis

Abbildung 1 **Fehler! Textmarke nicht definiert.**

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