Nothing Gold Can Stay by Robert Frost

Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down to day.  
Nothing gold can stay.

**While watching the sunrise, Ponyboy is reminded of a poem and recites it for Johnny.**

1. **What does the fact that Ponyboy has the poem memorized say about his character?**
2. **What does mean by saying “green is gold”? Think about what these colours represent.**
3. **In the context of the poem, what is the connotation of the word “flower”?**
4. **In the bible Eden is considered a paradise. With this in mind, explain the line, “Eden sank to grief”?**
5. **What is the main message of the poem? How can the message of this poem relate to the life of a teenager?**
6. **After Jonny’s injury, he tells Ponyboy to “stay gold”. What do you think he means?**