

OF MICE AND MEN

Managing
Information
and Thinking

Being
Creative



Communicating

Staying
Well

Working
with
others

BY JOHN STEINBECK

NAME: _____

Managing
Myself

www.loughallenliteracyhut.com

The Junior Cycle allows students to make a greater connection with learning by focusing on the quality of learning that takes place and by offering experiences that are engaging and enjoyable for them, and relevant to their lives. These experiences directly contribute to the physical, mental and social wellbeing of learners, and where possible, provide opportunities for them to develop their abilities and talents in the areas of creativity, innovation and enterprise.

Mrs. Shannon

Triangle of Learning

**One thing I already knew
about Of Mice and Men.**

**Two questions
I would still
like answered.**

**Three things I
have learnt by
the end of
Chapter 1 of
the book.**



Key Skills:

Being Creative

Managing
Information
and thinking

My Research

Managing
Information
and Thinking

Students:

Write down everything
you have researched
about John Steinbeck.

Communicating/
Working with
others

When you have this task completed, swap with a partner and examine their work. How did yours compare?

John Steinbeck

Steinbeck's life:

Migrant workers:

Where did the title come from?



Why do you think Steinbeck wrote about this? _____

Of Mice and Men Unit

Difficult Words

Definition	Word
Chapter One	
Abrupt in manner of speech	Brusque
To consider carefully and at length	Contemplate
The scattered remains of something broken or destroyed	Debris
The line or point where two bodies are joined	Juncture
To copy or imitate closely	Mimic
Sullen; melancholy; gloomy	Morose
Lying down, especially in a position of rest or comfort	Recumbent
An amount of money; to possess or reserve a share of land, money, glory etc.	Stake
Chapter 2	
Unexpectedly sudden	Abrupt
Anxious or fearful of the future	Apprehensive
Belittling; tending to detract or diminish	Derogatory
To calm in temper or feeling	Mollify
Menacing, threatening	Ominous
Combative in nature; belligerent	Pugnacious
Expression of anger or disapproval	Scowl
Evil, immoral, malicious	Vicious
Chapter 3	
Bewildered; confused	Bemuse
Characteristic cry of a goat or sheep	Bleat
To cringe in fear	Cower
A card game	Euchre
A compartment in a firearm	Magazine
Ready or willing to receive willingly	Receptive
Expressed or marked by sarcasm	Sarcastic
To preserve meat/fish by exposure to burning hardwood	Smoke
Chapter 4	
Distant physically or emotionally	Aloof
To stir up; excite	Arouse
To handle or use roughly	Maul
Having the power to persuade	Persuasive

Contempt or disdain felt towards a person or object	Scorn
A pair of eyeglasses	Spectacles
To become less agitated or active	Subside
Chapter 5 & 6	
Cunning; sly; deceitful	Crafty
Forcefulness of expression which gives importance to something	Emphasis
Lacking strength or vigour; lacking conviction, boldness or courage	Faint
A strong, abrupt gush of wind	Gust
To remain in an uncertain state; waver	Hover
Lacking in variety	Monotonous
Withdrawn; gloomy, dismal	Sulky
Morose or sulky	Sullen
Suggestive of an animal's claw	Talon
To twist, as in pain, struggle	Writhe

*A little about
The Great
Depression*

The Great Depression: A Brief Overview

No job, no hope . . .

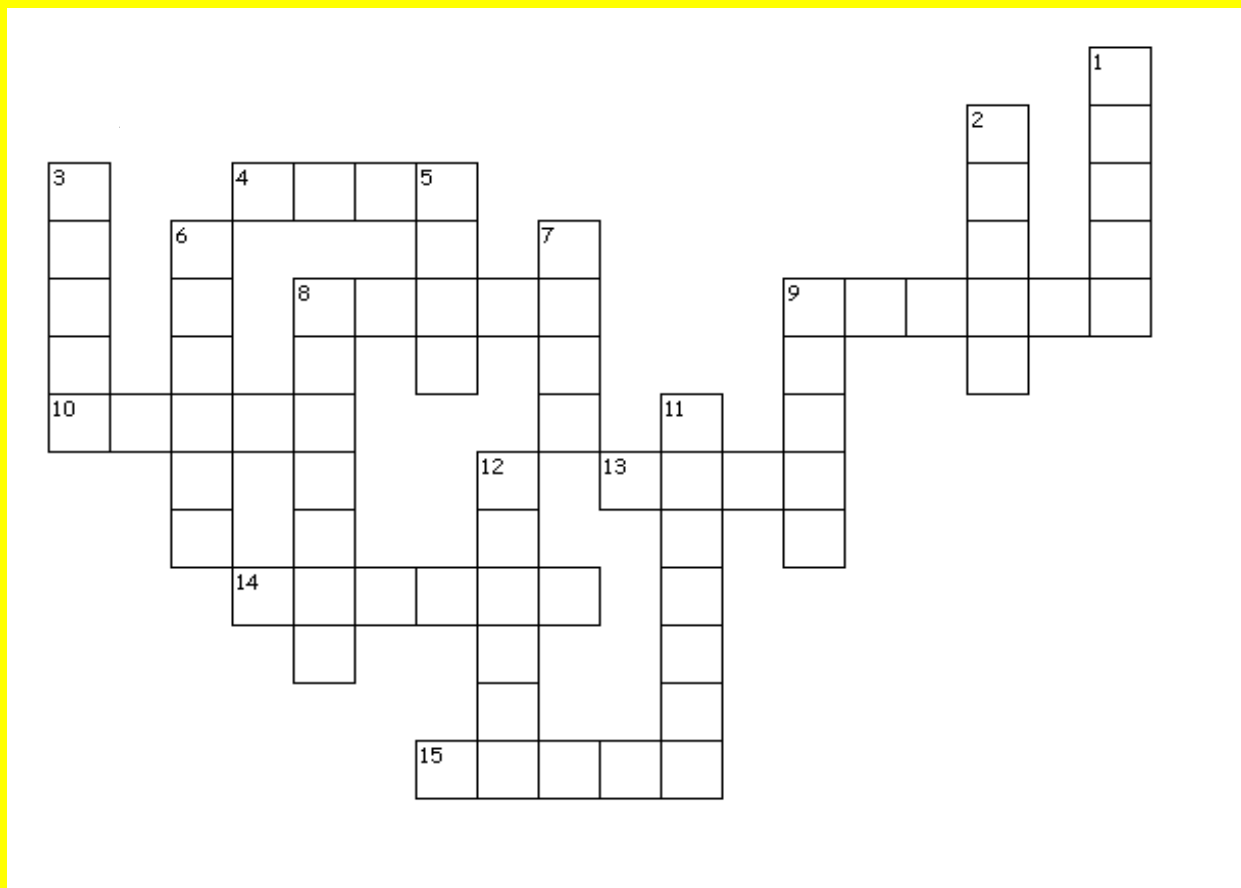
- America's "Great Depression" began with **crash** of the stock market on "Black Thursday", October 24, **1929** when 16 million shares of stock were sold
- This meant that the price of shares collapsed. People lost all their savings
- Some people took their own lives
- Many people stopped buying things
- Shops could not sell. Shops closed, and people lost their jobs.
- By 1933, nearly 25% of the USA's total work force, 12,830,000 people, was unemployed.
- Wages fell almost 43% between 1929 and 1933.
- Farm prices fell and many farmers lost their homes and land. Many went hungry.
- Families split up or migrated from their homes in search of work.

Write one paragraph about life in the 1930s.

Start as follows:

The American economy was booming in the 1920s. Then in 1929 people started to lose confidence. Many people had put all their savings in shares. They started to sell their shares. Share prices collapsed. People lost.....

Of Mice and Men Chapters 1-2



Across

4. What animal is Lennie compared to?
8. What are *George* and *Lennie* trying to get in order to buy a ranch?
9. Who is the boss' son?
10. *George* tells the boss that *Lennie* was kicked in the head by a what?
13. What body part is *Candy* missing?
14. What activity does *Curley* do to prove himself as a 'hard man'?
15. What do *George* and *Lennie* eat by the camp fire?

Down

1. What does *Candy* describe *Curley* as being?
2. What is *Lennie's* inappropriate surname?
3. Where do *George* and *Lennie* spend the night in Chapter 1?
5. What does the stable buck do in his room?
6. Who is the cleverer of the two: *George* or *Lennie*?
7. Where did *George* and *Lennie* run away from at the end of the novel?
8. What does the boss wear on his head?
9. Who owns an old, half-blind dog?
11. *Lennie* dreams of looking after what?
12. Who is the bigger of the two: *George* or *Lennie*?

Aim: Let's discuss the setting for the novel?



A few miles south of Soledad, the Salinas River drops in close to the hillside bank and runs deep and green. The water is warm too, for it has slipped twinkling over the yellow sands in the sunlight before reaching the narrow pool. On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up to the strong and rocky Gabilan mountain, but on the valley side the water is lined with trees - willows fresh and green with every spring, carrying in their lower leaf junctures the debris of the winter's flooding; and sycamores with mottled, white, recumbent limbs and branches that arch over the pool. On the sandy bank under the trees the leaves lie deep and so crisp that a lizard makes a great skittering if he runs among them. Rabbits come out of the brush to sit on the sand in the evening, and the damp flats are covered with the tracks of 'coons, and with the spread pads of dogs from the ranches, and with the split-wedge tracks of deer that come to drink in the dark.

- 1) **Underline all the adjectives (describing words)**
- 2) **List all the animals/colours mentioned**
- 3) **Draw your idea of what it looks like**



Group Discussion Questions



Chapter 1

Q1 In which state in the USA is *Of Mice and Men* set?

Q2 In what season is *Of Mice and Men* set in?

Q3 Which three animals is Lennie likened to in the opening pages?

Q4 Identify the speaker of this quote; 'If he finds out what a crazy bastard you are, we won't get no job'?

Q5 Identify the person *to whom* this comment refers; 'Wonder he isn't too damn good to stop in Soledad at all'?

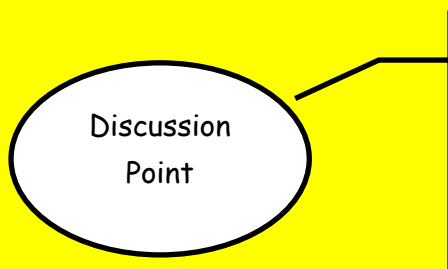
Q6 What luxury does Lennie like on his beans?

Q7 What does Lennie retrieve instead of firewood?

Q8 Which town did the two last work in 'Up north'?

Q9 Identify the speaker; 'Lady, huh? Don't even remember who that lady was'?

Q10 Where was the fair where Lennie saw some 'Furry' rabbits?



Describe the setting in the opening pages of the novel '*Of Mice and Men*'.
Concentrate on colour/nature/sounds.

Chapter 2

11. What colour is the can that George picks up out of his box shelf?

12. What is the name of the blacksmith who last was the occupant of George's bunk?

13. How many bunks are there in the bunkhouse?

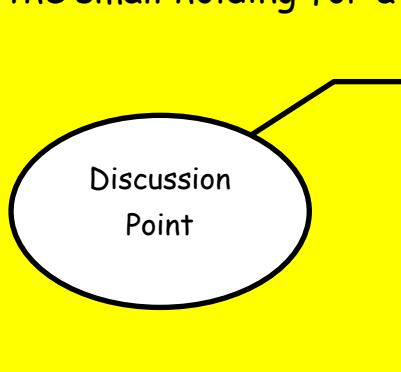
14. Why has the 'stable buck' Crooks got a crooked back?

15. What are George and Lennie's surnames?

16. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'This ain't no good place. I wanna get outa here'?
 17. Identify the person to whom this quote refers; 'He hates big guys. He's alla the time picking scraps with big guys'
 18. Describe Curley's Wife using three adjectives from the novel?
 19. What sort of hat does Slim wear?
 20. On which hand does Curley wear a glove 'fulla vaseline'?
- (\$\$ Bonus Question \$\$.) What is the name of Slim's dog?

Chapter 3

21. What type of a lamp does Slim put on when he enters the bunkhouse?
 22. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'Guy don't need no sense to be a nice fella,?'
 23. Who looked after Lennie when he was growing up?
 24. Which town were George and Lennie born in?
 25. Identify the person to whom this quote refers; 'God Almighty, I never seen such a strong guy'?
 26. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'Made me seem God damn smart alongside of him'?
 27. What is the name of the river that George instructs Lennie to jump into?
 28. Who shoots Candy's old dog?
 29. What is the name of the ranch hand that has had one of his letters published in a magazine but no longer works at the ranch?
 30. How much money does Candy put forward so the three can buy the small holding?
- (\$\$ Bonus Question \$\$.) Why does George believe the three can get the small holding for a cheap price?



Talking and Listening

George and Lennie seem to be very good friends, even though they are not alike. Discuss with your partner what you think makes a good friend. Choose three things that you both think are very important, to give as feedback to the class.

Found Poem Exercise

Steinbeck uses such beautiful diction (word choice) in his novel *Mice and Men*. The following quote is taken from Chapter 3. The silence plays a large role in setting the mood of this scene. Using a **minimum of three phrases** from this quote, create a poem of your own. The phrases in the box are poetic, but feel free to use any others you find in the quote that are fitting for your poem. Your poem does not have to rhyme or have a formal structure, but **should contain some of your own words and be at least 8 lines long or more**. Your poem can reflect the novel and/or silence, but do not have to. These poems will be shared in class and will be collected.

"His voice trailed off. It was silent outside. Carlson's footsteps died away. The silence came into the room. And the silence lasted... It came out of the night and invaded the room... They took places opposite each other at the table under the light, but George did not shuffle the cards. He rippled the edge of the deck nervously, and the little snapping noise drew the eyes of all the men in the room, so that he stopped doing it. The silence fell on the room again. A minute passed, and another minute... There came a little gnawing sound from under the floor and all the men looked down toward it gratefully... A shot sounded in the distance. The men looked quickly at the old man. Every head turned toward him. For a moment he continued to stare at the ceiling. Then he rolled slowly over and faced the wall and lay silent. George shuffled the cards noisily and dealt them (48 - 49)."

Phrases to consider:

voice trailed off

silent outside

footsteps died away

the silence came into the room

came out of the night

rippled the edge of the deck

snapping noise

silence fell on the room

gnawing sound

shot sounded in the distance

stare at the ceiling

lay silent

My Poem

Chapter 4

31. Name at least six possessions Crooks has in his room?
32. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'It's just the talking. It's just bein' with another guy. That's all'?
33. Where was Crooks born?
34. How many brothers did Crooks have?
35. Identify the person to whom this quote refers; 'He kept his distance and demanded that other people keep theirs'?
36. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'Ever'body wants a little piece of lan'...Nobody never gets to heaven, and nobody never gets no land'?
37. Who enters Crooks room and calls Crooks a 'nigger' Candy a 'lousy ol' sheep and Lennie a 'dum- dum'?
38. Identify the speaker of the quote; "A coloured man got to have some rights even if he don't like 'em."?
39. What agreement do Candy and Lennie forget they have made when they visit Crooks' room?
40. According to Crooks, what happens when a 'guy' gets lonely?

Discussion
Point

Diary Entry

Imagine you are Curley's wife. Write a diary entry, explaining how you feel about life on the ranch. You should mention your relationship with Curley and how the other men treat you. Talk about your feelings and your hopes for the future too.

Chapter 5

41. What type of gun is Carlson's gun?
42. What is Lennie stroking that is dead in the barn?
43. Identify the speaker of this quote; "This here God damn little son - of - a- bitch wasn't nothing to George."?
44. What day is it and what is the time e.g. morning?
45. Identify the person to whom this quote refers; 'She was very pretty and simple, and her face was sweet and young'?
46. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'He ain't a nice fella'?

47. Where did Curley's Wife meet a man who was 'in pitchers' and promised to 'put' her 'in the movies'?

48. Who gave Lennie a piece of 'velvet' and what happened to it?

49. How does Lennie kill Curley's Wife?

50. Identify the speaker of this quote; "Maybe like that time in Weed you was tellin' about"?

(\$\$ Bonus Question \$\$.) What else dies in the barn along with the puppy and Curley's wife?

Discussion
Point

Activity

Point of view (perspective) Exercise

(a) Imagine you are Curley's wife. Re-tell this incident from her point of view.

(b) Imagine you are George. Tell what happened in the barn from his point of view. Also, explain what you are going to do next and your reasons for doing it.

Curley's Wife - Love or Hate?

DISLIKE

- She is the cause of the farm dream shattering
- Flirts with other men : "leant against the door frame so that her body was thrown forward.."
- Visual description of when introducing her "nasal" voice...red - danger/lust
- George warns Lennie that she is trouble. We as the reader, trust George because of the way he looks after Lennie.
- It is ultimately her fault that Lennie is dead

SYMPATHY

- The reader never likes her but as the novel progress they may feel some **sympathy** towards her.
- Could have had a better life (HOPE/DREAM) - "but my old woman wouldn't let me..."
- Treated as a possession - no name
- Gets treated as 'trouble' (unfair?) She is assumed to be trouble from the outset.
- Opens up to Lennie - reader gets to find out more background information about the character: "Well, I ain't told this nobody before..."
- Knowing her dreams makes the character seem more real/human.
- Visual description of her when dead is much more delicate: "she was pretty and simple and her face was sweet and young."
- Comforts Lennie when he's upset about the puppy.

Aim: Is Curley's wife a tart?

- 1) Discuss what the word 'tart' means
- 2) Debate: This house believes Curley's wife is a tart, and it is her behaviour that leads directly to her death.

Split into 2 groups. One group for motion, the other group against. Work in groups to find evidence. Choose speakers.

For motion	Against motion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candy says she is always 'giving Slim the eye' • She dresses inappropriately for life on a ranch • She doesn't stay inside the house with the boss and Curley • She wears red lipstick • She follows the men around 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • she had a whirlwind romance with Curley and now realises she made a mistake • she is very young • there is nothing for her to do on the ranch • she is the only woman on the ranch • she is lonely and bored • she is frustrated because Curley goes off to be with whores, even though she has only been married 2 weeks • she only got married to escape her mother • she feels let down by life, because she didn't become a Hollywood actress: she needs someone to confide in

Chapter 6

51. Where has Lennie returned to?
52. Describe the hallucination of Aunt Clara using three adjectives?
53. What second hallucination originates from out of Lennie's mind?

54. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'What the hell you yellin' about?'"?

55. Identify the person to whom this quote refers; "You crazy bastard. You ain't fit lick the boots of no rabbit.'

56. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'An' I got you. We got each other, that's what, that gives a hoot in hell about us'. ?

57. Identify the speaker of this quote; 'Nobody gonna hurt nobody nor steal from 'em.'"?

58. Identify the persons to whom this quote refers; "Now what the hell ya suppose is eatin' them two guys?'

(\$\$ Bonus Question \$\$.) Who had Carlson's gun and what is the connection between it and Candy's dog's death and Lennie's death?

Discussion
Point

Activity

Diary Entry

Imagine you are *George*. Write a diary entry, explaining **how you feel** at the end of the novel. You should mention your relationship with *Lennie* and how the other men are treating you. Talk about your feelings and your future too.




Discussion
Point

News Report

Imagine you are a television news reporter. Write out the text of your news report covering the day's events at the ranch.

Of Mice and Men Character Profiles

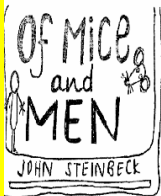
a) Write a profile for each character in the table below; include what we learn about each one over the course of the novel. The first one has been done for you.

Picture	Character Name	Who are they?
	George Milton	<p><i>George is a wandering transient looking for work during the great depression, he travels with Lennie who is his best friend and they do almost everything together. George is very courageous, caring and smart. He is caring because he looks after his best friend, Lennie who has learning difficulties. He is brave because of his choice at the end of the novel, saving his friend the pain of being lynched by Curley and his men.</i></p>
	Lennie Small	
	Candy	

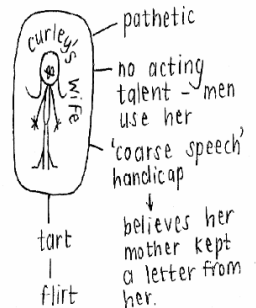
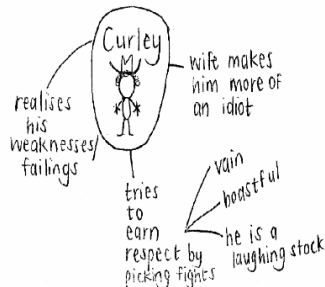
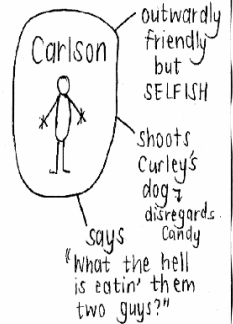
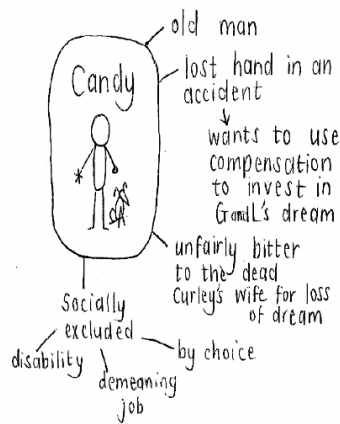
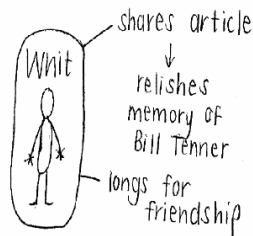
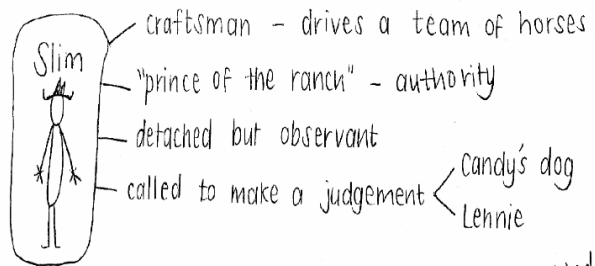
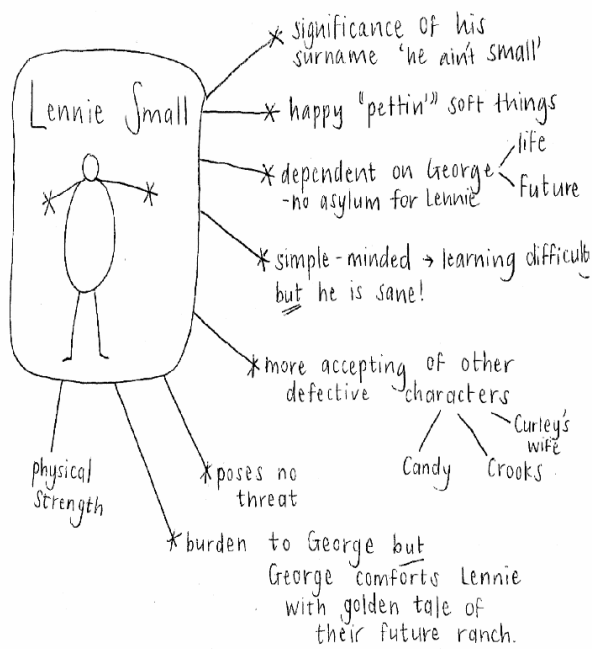
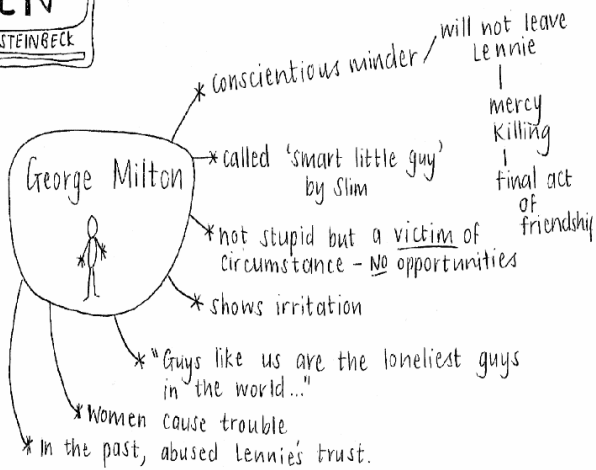
	<p>Crooks</p>	
	<p>Curley</p>	
	<p>Curley's Wife</p>	

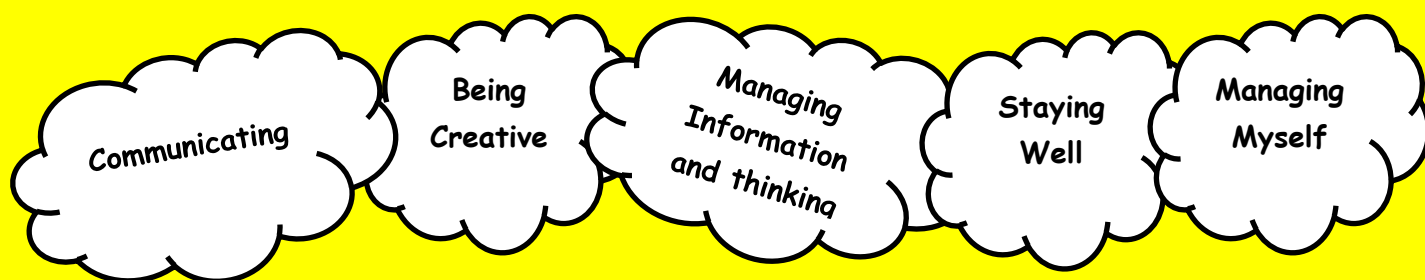
Description of the characters

	Loneliness	Dream
George	George is not lonely during the novel, as he has Lennie. He will be lonely afterwards, without his best friend.	George and Lennie share a dream - to own a little patch of land and live on it in freedom. He is so set on the idea that he even knows of some land that he thinks they could buy.
Lennie	Lennie is the only character who is innocent enough not to fear loneliness, but he is angry when Crooks suggests George won't come back to him.	George and Lennie share a dream - to own a little patch of land and live on it in freedom. Lennie's main desire is to tend the soft-haired rabbits they will keep.
Curley's wife	She is married to a man she doesn't love and who doesn't love her. There are no other women on the ranch and she has nothing to do. She tries to befriend the men by hanging round the bunkhouse.	She dreams of being a movie star. Her hopes were raised by a man who claimed he would take her to Hollywood, but when she didn't receive a letter from him, she married Curley.
Candy	When Candy's ancient, ill dog was shot, Candy has nothing left. He delayed killing the dog, even though he knew deep down that it was the best thing, as he dreaded losing his long-time companion.	Candy joins George and Lennie's plan of owning a piece of land. His savings make the dream actually possible to achieve.
Crooks	Crooks lives in enforced solitude, away from the other men. He is bitter about being a back-busted nigger. He is thrilled when Lennie and Candy come into his room and are his companions for a night.	Crooks dreams of being seen as equal to everyone else. He knows his civil rights. He remembers fondly his childhood, when he played with white children who came to his family's chicken ranch, and longs for a similar relationship with white people again.



CHARACTERS





'Of Mice and Men' Wordwall

John Steinbeck
George Milton
Lennie Small
Soledad
Weed
California
Curley
Seductive
Flirtatious
Pretty/Beautiful
Powerful
Untrustworthy
Loneliness
Simple American Dream
Carlson
Candy
Slim



George Milton

Update status Add photo/video

Status:

Date of Birth:

From:

Occupation:

Favourite film:

Interests:

Favourite saying:

Wall

Info

Photos (971)

Notes

Friends

Subscriptions

Friends ()



Slim



Lennie



Curley's
Wife



Curley



Candy



Crooks



Carlson



The Boss



Lennie Small

Update status Add photo/video

Status:

Date of Birth:

From:

Occupation:

Favourite film:

Interests:

Favourite saying:

- Wall
- Info
- Photos (971)
- Notes
- Friends
- Subscriptions

Friends (541)



Slim



George



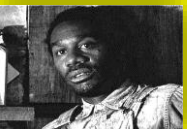
Curley's Wife



Curley



Candy



Crooks



Carlson



The Boss

Important Themes

Friendship 1:

Despite George's impatience and annoyance with Lennie, and his remarks about how easy his life would be without him, he still believes that:

"Guys like us that work on ranches are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no family. They don't belong no place...With us it ain't like that. We got a future. We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us."

And Lennie finishes:

"An' why? Because...because I got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you, and that's why."

Even though Lennie is not very bright, he still listens to George, and he remains the one constant in George's transient life. For this George is grateful.

After Lennie killed Curley's wife, George was faced with a terrible choice-let Curley find Lennie and kill him, or kill Lennie himself. Unlike Candy, he will not let someone else shoot his best friend. He also will not subject his best friend to unnecessary pain. Slim's sympathetic response is best:

"'Never you mind,' said Slim. 'A guy got to sometimes.'"

George lets Lennie die believing in their dream, though he himself must continue, knowing they will never reach it.

Friendship 2:

Candy's sheepdog is old, arthritic and blind--his life is not a pleasant one. Carlson and Slim feel these are adequate reasons to kill the dog. Carlson tells Candy:

"Well, you ain't bein' kind to him keepin' him alive."

And Slim responds:

"Carl's right, Candy. That dog ain't no good to himself. I wisht somebody'd shoot me if I got old an' a cripple."

The argument the men use to convince Candy it is okay to euthanize his old friend will come up again at the end of the novel when George must kill Lennie. The dog and Lennie have parallel stories, with parallel fates, except Lennie has someone who cares enough about him to put him out of his misery, whereas Candy wouldn't get rid of his dog if he wasn't forced. Lennie has what Slim wishes for-- someone who loves him enough to know when he life would be better for him if it were over.

Dreams/Fantasy

George and Lennie's fantasy throughout this novel is a little bit of land, their own crops and animals-this is all they want. It is a simple American dream. They want to be self-reliant:

"'Well,' said George, 'we'll have a big vegetable patch and a rabbit hutch and chickens. And when it rains in the winter, we'll just say the hell with goin' to work, and we'll build up a fire in the stove and set around it an' listen to the rain comin' down on the roof...'

Their perfect world is one of independence. Workers like Lennie and George have no family, no home and very little control over their lives. They have to do what the boss tells them and they have little to show for it. They only own what they can carry. Therefore, this idea of having such power over their lives is a strong motivation which carries us through to the end of the novel when Lennie is shot.

When George goes into a full description of the farm, its Eden-like qualities become even more apparent. All the food they want will be right there, with minimal effort. As Lennie says:

"We could live offa the fatta the lan'."

When George talks about their farm, he twice describes it in terms of things he loved in childhood:

"I could build a smoke house like the one gran'pa had..."

"An' we'd keep a few pigeons to go flyin' around the win'mill like they done when I was a kid."

George yearns for his future to reflect the beauty of his childhood. When George tells Lennie to look across the river and imagine their farm, he lets Lennie die with the hope that they will attain their dream, and attain it soon. George, who must kill Lennie, is not allowed such comfort. He must go on living knowing the failure of their dream, as well as deal with the guilt of having killed his best friend.

What Is *Your* American Dream?

Think back to *The Great Gatsby* and how all of the characters interpreted the American Dream in the 1920s. Similarly, the characters in *Of Mice and Men* have their own ideas about the American Dream during the Great Depression. Before reading, think about your goals and aspirations by answering the following questions:

List three goals or dreams you would like to accomplish before the age of thirty.

1.

2.

3.

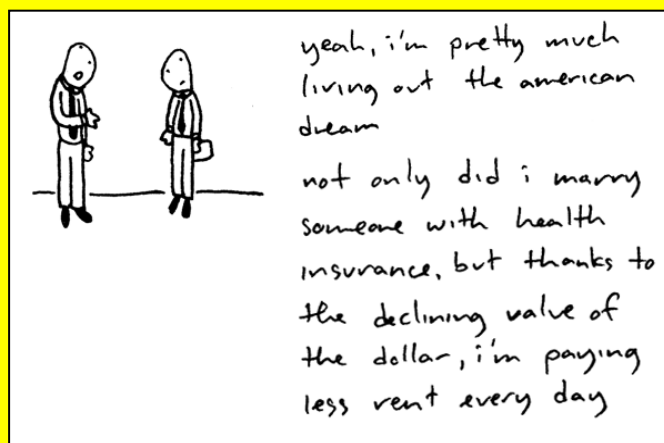
List three goals or dreams you would like to accomplish before you die.

1.

2.

3.

Are your dreams similar/different to the literary characters we have read about? Of the above goals and dreams, which are most important to you? How will you fulfil these dreams? What are you currently doing to insure your dreams will be possible in the future? How would you feel if you were unable to attain these dreams in the future? What do your dreams say about you as a person of 2011? Is the American Dream still alive today?



Personal Response on the ending

Write about the ending of the novel "Of Mice and Men". You should mention the following points:

1. What happens in the end?
2. Were you surprised by the ending? Why/Why not?
3. How have characters changed from the beginning to the end of the novel?
4. If you were writing the next chapter, what would happen next?
5. Is there a hero in this story? If so what makes him/her a hero?
6. Is there a villain in this story? Explain your answer.
7. Does the author send us a message in this story? What is that message?
8. Did you like the ending? Explain your point of view.
9. What makes this ending so sad? Explain your opinion.

Final Reflection

1. *'Of Mice and Men' is a story about friendship and loneliness.*

Discuss this statement using quotation and examples from the novel to support your points.

2. *George was a kind man who did all he could for Lennie.*

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Refer to the novel and use quotation to support your points.

Exam Style

Name a novel or short story you have studied where a character is faced with a difficult situation.

1. Name the character.
2. Describe the difficult situation.
3. Explain what you learnt about the character from the way he/she dealt with the difficult situation. (20 marks)

Practice Questions

- 1 What is the importance of Crooks to the novel?
- 2 Most of the characters in 'Of Mice and Men' are insecure and looking for a settled life. Is this true? Use two characters to explain your response.
- 3 Why is George and Lennie's dream so important to them?
- 4 Describe how different characters and incidents change the atmosphere in the bunkhouse

Write about:

- George's suspicions about the bunkhouse beds
- The ranch owner questioning George and Lennie's late arrival
- The killing of Candy's dog
- Curley's attack on Lennie

- 5 Discuss the relationship of George and Lennie.

Write about:

- Their travelling and working together
- How they relate to other characters in the novel
- Their dream
- Incidents that occur on the ranch involving them both
- Lennie's death

- 6 'Of Mice and Men' ends where it begins, with George and Lennie alone by the pool. What is your response to the ending of the novel?

Write about:

- Your feelings about George's decision to shoot Lennie

- Ways in which Steinbeck prepares us for this ending
- Why the writer chooses to end the story in this way
- Whether the ending suggests that the friendship of George and Lennie was pointless.

Sample Answer

Name a novel or short story that you have studied which deals with an important relationship

- Name the characters in the relationship
- Describe how this relationship develops
- Choose your favourite character in this relationship and explain why this is your favourite character.

The novel I have studied is 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. The main characters are best friends, George Milton and Lennie Small. George is a small, dark faced man while Lennie is huge with great strength. He's slow and 'simple'. George often gets frustrated with Lennie and tells us how easy life would be without him.

However, he needs Lennie as much as Lennie needs him. He tells him, "*We got a future*" and Lennie tells him "*I got you and you got me.*"

At the end of the novel, their relationship reaches its climax when George is faced with a terrible choice - kill Lennie for his wrongdoing or let Curley find him. George does not want Lennie to go through unnecessary pain so he shoots his best friend. He lets Lennie die believing in the dream of owning their own bit of land.

My favourite character is Lennie because he has the personality of a child. He never means to do any of the things that get him into trouble. In my opinion, Lennie's innocence keeps their dream alive.

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

What do I need to know for the exam?

Be able to discuss different themes:

Friendships

Fantasy

Loneliness

Racism

Assessment for Learning Tweets

Have I learnt
something new?

Which key skills
have I improved?

How has my
work
progressed?

What was difficult
about this task?

What will I need to do next time?