

Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: _____

**Summer Reading Assignment
South Plantation High School
Environmental Science and Everglades Restoration Magnet
2010**

Due on August 27, 2010

All incoming 10th graders will read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck and complete the following assignment.

Part I: Chapter Questions

Ch. 1

1. What happened in Weed that caused Lennie and George to leave?
2. Why does George take away Lennie's mouse?
3. Why does George tell Lennie not to say anything to the new boss?
4. What is Lennie and George's plan for the future?
5. How are Lennie and George different from other migrant workers?

Of Mice and Men

Ch. 2

1. "Ain't many guys travel around together. I don't know why. Maybe ever'body in the whole damn world is scared of each other."

What theme does this quote reveal?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. alienation and isolation | b. race and racism |
| c. class conflict | d. idealism vs. realism |

2. Write a brief character sketch of Curley. Tell me what he looks like, what he says, does, and what others say about him that helps us learn about his character. (you may continue on the back)

3. Tell me about Candy's dog. How are Candy and his dog similar?

4. How do the others react to George and Lennie traveling together? What does this say about the society?

5. What are some predictions you have about the rest of the story?

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Of Mice and Men
Ch. 3

1. How do you feel about George after he tells Slim of his past with Lennie?
2. What does the scene with Candy's dog represent?
3. What might George and Lennie be able to do now that Candy is with them?
4. Candy's theoretical future characterizes what theme of the story?
 - a. man vs. man
 - b. man vs. society/environment
 - c. man vs. nature
 - d. man vs. self

Of Mice and Men
Ch. 4

1. Give a brief character sketch of Crooks (explore who he is and why he is that way).
2. How was Crooks' childhood different than his life at present? How do you think this has affected him?
3. What circumstances or variables cause the following characters' alienation?
 - a. Crooks
 - b. Candy
 - c. Curly's wife
4. What is Candy able to accomplish now that he has "friends"?

Of Mice and Men
Ch. 5 & 6

1. Why did Curley's wife marry Curley?
2. Why aren't George and Candy going to get the farm?
3. What is George's life going to be like now?
4. What happened at the end? Were you surprised?
5. Who do you pity most? Why?

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Part II: Follow-up Project (to begin planning for at start of reading)

1) Symbolism is when an object (an intangible) represents a metaphorical idea and larger thematic question. For instance, our country's **flag** symbolizes freedom, the fact that we each wear **shoes** may symbolize our well-being or luxury/wealth, and a **stuffed animal** may symbolize childhood.

Choose a symbol from *Of Mice and Men*. Track the use of this symbol throughout your reading of the book. Keep a list in your journal of each time the symbol appears and how. As you continue, decide what this symbol represents.

Create an artistic representation of your symbol. You may choose any form of creative expression that suits you (painting, drawing, sculpture, collage, a mix CD, a poem, or a short story / play). Whichever form you choose, your project needs to be professional and polished.

Your project should express the theme or idea for which the symbol stands. For example, if you believe your symbol represents innocence, your artistic creation should also show innocence. You may include the symbol in your project, but it is more important that you epitomize the *idea* behind the symbol.

Finally, after creating your project, write a one page, typed and double-spaced analysis of your work. In this analysis, explain how your art explores the symbol and its theme. You may connect to *Of Mice and Men* in your analysis. Provide insight into the meaning of you artwork, story, poem, etc.

Rubric

You will be graded according to the following criteria:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Polished and Clean / Edited | _____ / 5 |
| Clear symbolic meaning | _____ / 5 |
| Creative / Appealing | _____ / 5 |
| Written Component | _____ / 10 |