*Of Mice and Men* Study Guide



Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Book #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Reading Friendship survey

**Friendship Traits Activity**

Everyone looks for certain qualities in a friend. Below is a list of qualities you might look for. Rank these qualities in the order of their importance to you. Give the highest number to the quality that is most important to you and go down from there. Therefore**, the** **quality that is least important to you should be ranked 1 and the highest 9.** *Make sure you answer these honestly and individually****.*** Let me know if you have any questions.

**2. Your Best Friend**

\_\_\_\_\_ honesty

\_\_\_\_\_ loyalty

\_\_\_\_\_ understanding

\_\_\_\_\_ popularity

\_\_\_\_\_ physical appearance

\_\_\_\_\_ similar interests

\_\_\_\_\_ companionship

\_\_\_\_\_ money and influence

\_\_\_\_\_ trustworthiness

**1. The Ideal Friend**

\_\_\_\_\_ honesty

\_\_\_\_\_ loyalty

\_\_\_\_\_ understanding

\_\_\_\_\_ popularity

\_\_\_\_\_ physical appearance

\_\_\_\_\_ similar interests

\_\_\_\_\_ companionship

\_\_\_\_\_ money and influence

\_\_\_\_\_ trustworthiness

**3. Pretend that your best friend is ranking these qualities about you. How will he/she rate you as a friend? *Be honest.***

\_\_\_\_\_ physical appearance

\_\_\_\_\_ similar interests

\_\_\_\_\_ companionship

\_\_\_\_\_ money and influence

\_\_\_\_\_ trustworthiness

\_\_\_\_\_ honesty

\_\_\_\_\_ loyalty

\_\_\_\_\_ understanding

\_\_\_\_\_ popularity

**4. What is the most important thing a good friend could ever do for you?**

**5. What is companionship? Is it important? If so, why?**

**6. What different types of companionship exist? Please list all that you can think of.**

**7. What happens to people who are without companionship?**

Pre-Reading Notes

Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Characters: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Themes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Major Conflicts: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Symbols \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Character Maps

**Pages 1-16 (answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. How would you describe the relationship between George and Lennie? Give an example from the text.

2. What does Lennie have in his hand? Why does he have that? How did it die?

3. Why doesn’t George want Lennie to talk in front of his new boss?

4. What happened to the men in Weed? Why did they have to leave?

5. What are Lennie and George going to do in Soledad?

6. Explain the connection between Lennie’s mouse and what happened in Weed.

7. Do you think Lennie means to cause problems? Why or why not?

8. What is Lennie and George’s dream?

9. Why is the story about the rabbits important? What does it symbolize?

10. Where are Lennie and George supposed to meet if either gets into trouble?

**Pages 17-37(answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. How does Whitey represent a ranch hand’s life and the book’s mood of alienation?

2. Why is the boss so mean to the stable buck? How do the ranch hands treat the stable buck?

3. Why is the boss suspicious of George and Lennie?

4. How does George explain why Lennie is different? Is George’s story accurate?

5. How would you describe Curley? What is his attitude toward Lennie?

6. What does Candy think about Curley’s wife?

7. What words of advice does George have for Lennie regarding Curley?

8. What words of advice does George have for Lennie regarding Curley’s wife?

9. What do Carlson and Slim say about Candy’s dog? What does that reveal about their characters?

10. What from this section may represent foreshadowing?

**Pages 38-65(answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. How does Lennie feel about his new puppy? How can you tell?

2. What does the story about Lennie nearly drowning in the river suggest about the way George and Lennie’s relationship has evolved?

3. Why does George trust Slim?

4. What does George tell Slim happened in Weed? How does he portray Lennie in the story?

5. Analyze Carlson’s reasons for wanting to kill the dog and Candy’s reason against it. What might this say about a larger theme in the novel?

6. Why doesn’t George want to spend money at the brothel?

7. Do you think Lennie and George’s dream is achievable? Why or why not?

8. How are Candy and his dog similar?

9. Describe the fight between Lennie and Curley.

10. How does Slim help Lennie after the fight? Why does he do that?

**Pages 66-83(answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. What does Crooks’s room reveal about him?

2. What do Crooks’s thoughts reveal about loneliness?

3. Why is Lennie so convinced George won’t leave him?

4. What is Crooks’s reaction to Lennie’s dream? Why does Crooks have that reaction?

5. How does Curley’s wife seem to deliberately provoke the men?

6. Why does Curley’s wife act the way she does?

7. What about Curley’s wife’s words and actions seem most destructive? Do you think she acts this way on purpose? Why or why not?

8. How is Crooks at a disadvantage when it comes to Curley’s wife?

**Pages 84-98(answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. How is Lennie’s treatment of the dead puppy typical of his character?

2. How does Curley’s wife feel about him? How does this relate to the theme of the novel?

3. How does Curley’s wife entice Lennie into touching her?

4. Why does Curley’s wife get mad at Lennie?

5. How does Lennie handle Curley’s wife’s struggle? What eventually happens to Curley’s wife?

6. How does Lennie react to what he has done?

7. What is George’s response to Curley’s wife’s death?

8. How does Candy react to Curley’s wife’s death?

9. How does Curley react to his wife’s death?

**Pages 99-107(answer all with complete sentences and MLA Citation)**

1. What is Lennie’s mindset as he waits near the bush?

2. The description of Lennie’s death mirrors another event in the novel. Which event is that and how are the events similar?

3. What does this parallel reveal about George’s motives?

4. Explain George’s last marks to Lennie.

5. Why does George lie about the gun?

6. How does Slim act around George? Why does Slim treat George the way he does?

7. Explain the last line of the novel.

***Of Mice and Men* Wrap-up Questions**

1. List three examples of foreshadowing from the novel with page numbers.

A) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain how each of the following themes shows up in the novel.

A) The American Dream

B) Loneliness

C) Loyalty, friendship and sacrifice

D) Power

E) Discrimination

3. Explain each of the following symbols and what it represents in the novel.

A) George and Lennie’s farm

B) Candy’s dog

C) Lennie’s puppy

D) Rabbits

4) Sequence the major events of the novel in the boxes below.