

Student Name:

Teacher Name: Eddy/Wimberley

Class Name/Subject: English 1

Period: 3/4

Assignment Week #: 1

Of Mice and Men Q&A Chapter 1

Directions: Choose five questions and write complete sentence answers.

1. What physical descriptions of the two men does the author give the reader upon their initial entrance?
2. How does Lennie behave when we first meet him? How does George behave?
3. What troubling fact do we learn about Lennie and George's background and why they are on the road? How did the two men come to travel together?
4. What instructions does George give Lennie in case there is any trouble? Why might this be significant?
5. What clues are there to the time period and place of the novel's setting?
6. What is your first impression of George and Lennie? Why?
7. Do you believe Lennie's claim that he did not kill the mouse but found it dead on the side of the road? Why or why not?
8. What effect does Lennie's intellectual impairment have on your sympathy for him? Why?
9. What is your overall impression of George by the end of the chapter? Why?
10. What do you make of George and Lennie's dream of the ranch and the rabbits? Is it worthwhile or silly? What does it suggest about them and their lives?
11. How does Steinbeck's use of figurative language and natural imagery set the tone for the opening paragraphs? What is the tone created?
12. Steinbeck continues to intersperse natural imagery with the action and dialogue of the two men. Which literary devices are the most prominent and why? What function does this imagery serve overall in the chapter?
13. Analyze the author's use of foreshadowing in the chapter.
14. At what point(s) do we understand the true nature of George and Lennie's relationship? How does the author achieve this?
15. What historical knowledge of the Depression is Steinbeck assuming his audience has?
16. How does their opening dialogue reinforce what we already suspect about George and Lennie's relationship?
17. Trace the pattern exhibited in the chapter of the parent-child relationship existing between George and Lennie. What is the overall effect of this pattern?
18. How does the author effectively create the mix of affection and obligation George feels for Lennie?
19. Does the author effectively create sympathy for Lennie? Why or why not?
20. Is waiting until the end of the chapter to reveal George and Lennie's mutual dream for a ranch as an effective way to structure the chapter? Why or why not?