

## **THEMES -- OF MICE AND MEN**

### **FRIENDSHIP**

When you're in trouble and you need someone to talk to--Got Friends?

A true friend will believe in you. A real friend is there forever.

Friends stick together for comfort and strength.

Friendship is a sort of incredible connection between people that makes them sacrifice something for a friend and be happy about doing so.

Friendship is the most important thing in life. Life gets miserable without friends.

Friendship can last even between those farthest apart or those most different.

Friendship isn't always easy. True friends are hard to come by.

A friend is a person who is willing to sacrifice for you.

True friends will be there through thick and thin. True friendship is about sacrifice.

Always keep your friends' high esteem and try to do what's best for them.

Friendship saves lives. Loyalty is a virtue which is hard to come by.

Real friends know what's best for you. Friendship ameliorates the hardships of life.

Great friendship lasts until the very end. Love your friends and do what's best for them in times of need. Good friends are always there to help you.

Success, fame, and fortune--they're all illusions. All that is real is the friendship that two can share.

### **DREAMS**

Live your dreams. Face your fears. Wealth doesn't last forever, but \_\_\_\_\_ does.

All people have dreams. Sometimes they need a little help achieving them.

Dreams can bring hope and happiness to life. They make you persevere.

Dreams can become reality; it all depends on what your reality is.

Always follow your dream; if you really want it, you can have it.

Dreams are often far-fetched. "Hold fast to your dreams...."

Dreams keep you going.

**LONELINESS/ISOLATION** Try to accept people before judging them.

Being lonely is the same as being unsuccessful.

Follow your dreams and they will come true. No one wants to be alone.

Isolation leads to death--inside and out. Everybody needs a friend in life.

Friendship can save someone from loneliness. People need bonds.

A person can't survive without a friend in life.

Loneliness can be cured by friendship. Loneliness melts the heart.

If you never open up to others, opportunities will never open up for you.

### **WEALTH**

Wealth comes from the heart, not from the pocket.

You can be rich and still be poor on the inside. Money isn't everything.

Wealth does not always lead to happiness and satisfaction.

Wealth is not the most important thing. The wealth of life lies in friendship.

### **INTELLIGENCE/KINDNESS**

Having intelligence doesn't make you a better or a greater person; kindness does.

Everyone appreciates kind people.

Kindness doesn't always get you out of trouble.

Intelligence can only be determined by the beholder.

You don't need to be intelligent to be happy.

Someone who isn't the brightest may have a big heart.

## QUOTES -- OF MICE AND MEN

### **CURLEY**

“Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys. Kind of like he’s mad at ‘em because he ain’t a big guy.”

### **GEORGE AND LENNIE**

Slim: “You guys travel around together?”

“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.”

“Funny how you and him string along together.”

George: “It’s a lot nicer to go around with a guy you know.”

“It ain’t so funny him an’ me goin’ around together.”

“Got kinda used to each other after awhile.”

“I seen the guys that go around on the ranches alone. That ain’t no good. They don’t have no fun. After a long time they get mean.”

“Guys like us got no fambly....They ain’t got nobody in the worl’ that gives a hoot in hell about ‘em--”

Lennie: “But not us! Tell about us now.”

George: “Because I got you an’--”

Lennie: “An’ I got you. We got each other, that’s what, that gives a hoot in hell about us!”

### **LENNIE**

Slim: “He’s a nice fella. Guy don’t need no sense to be a nice fella.”

“Take a real smart guy and he ain’t hardly ever a nice fella.”

“Jesus, he’s jes’ like a kid, ain’t he?”

### **THE DREAM**

“This thing they had never really believed in was coming true.”

“They all sat still, all bemused by the beauty of the thing, each mind was popped into the future when this lovely thing should come about.”

(See description in the middle of Chapter 3)

### **CROOKS**

Crooks: “I seen it over and over--a guy talkin’ to another guy and it don’t make no difference if he don’t hear or understand. the thing is, they’re talkin’, or they’re settin’ still not talkin’.”

Crooks: “A guy needs somebody--to be near him. A guy goes nuts if he ain’t got nobody. Don’t make no difference who the guy is, long’s he’s with you.”

### **CURLEY’S WIFE**

Curley’s Wife: “Why can’t I talk to you? I never get to talk to nobody. I get awful lonely.”

“I get lonely. You can talk to people, but I can’t talk to nobody but Curley. Else he gets mad. How’d you like not to talk to anybody?”

‘Seems like they ain’t none of them cares how I gotta live.’”

### **CANDY’S DOG**

Carleton: “He ain’t no good to you and he ain’t no good to himself. Why’n’t you shoot him, Candy?”

“If you was to take him out and shoot him right in back of the head--right there, whv he’d never know what hit him ”

Candy: "I'm so used to him....I had him from a pup."

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

## SCRIPT WRITING ASSIGNMENT

- 🍎 Create a script that is at least 2 pages long based on the theme identified below.
- 🍎 Identify/explain your theme.
- 🍎 Tell a few incidents from the book that demonstrate this theme.
- 🍎 Include at least 2 quotes from the book.
- 🍎 Describe Candy's friendship with his old dog.
- 🍎 Describe George's and Lennie's friendship and how other characters (like Slim) view it.
- 🍎 Be creative, interesting, humorous, and still factual in your writing.

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#### **FRIENDSHIP**

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Friendship saves lives.      Loyalty is a virtue which is hard to come by.

Real friends know what's best for you.      Friendship ameliorates the hardships of life.

Great friendship lasts until the very end.      Love your friends and do what's best for them in times of need.      Good friends are always there to help you.

Success, fame, and fortune--they're all illusions. All that is real is the friendship that two can share.

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1      Of Mice and Men is a novel about friendship.

## SCRIPT WRITING ASSIGNMENT

- 🍏 Create a script that is at least 2 pages long based on the theme identified below.
- 🍏 Identify/explain your theme.
- 🍏 Tell a few incidents from the book that demonstrate this theme.
- 🍏 Describe George's and Lennie's dream and how Candy becomes a part of it.
- 🍏 Describe Curley's wife's dream.
- 🍏 Include at least 2 quotes from the book.
- 🍏 Be creative, interesting, humorous, and still factual in your writing.

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Dreams can bring hope and happiness to life. They make you persevere.  
Dreams can become reality; it all depends on what your reality is.  
Always follow your dream; if you really want it, you can have it.  
Dreams are often far-fetched.                    "Hold fast to your dreams...."  
Dreams keep you going.

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1        Of Mice and Men is a novel about dreams.

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- 🍎 Tell a few incidents from the book that demonstrate this theme.
- 🍎 Include at least 2 quotes from the book.
- 🍎 Describe why Lennie and George are better off than Crooks or Curley's wife or the others.
- 🍎 Be creative, interesting, humorous, and still factual in your writing.

### **THEME -- OF MICE AND MEN**

**LONELINESS/ISOLATION**                      Try to accept people before judging them.  
Being lonely is the same as being unsuccessful.  
Follow your dreams and they will come true.                      No one wants to be alone.  
Isolation leads to death--inside and out.                      Everybody needs a friend in life.  
Friendship can save someone from loneliness.                      People need bonds.  
A person can't survive without a friend in life.  
Loneliness can be cured by friendship.                      Loneliness melts the heart.  
If you never open up to others, opportunities will never open up for you.

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1        Of Mice and Men is a novel about loneliness and isolation.

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- 🍏 Tell a few incidents from the book that demonstrate this theme.
- 🍏 Include at least 2 quotes from the book.
- 🍏 Describe what Crooks and Curley's wife are lacking in their lives.
- 🍏 Describe what Candy lacks, but also what he had or has.
- 🍏 Be creative, interesting, humorous, and still factual in your writing.

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1 Of Mice and Men is a novel about what's really valuable in life.

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- 🍎 Include at least 2 quotes from the book.
- 🍎 Describe Lennie.
- 🍎 Describe George's and Lennie's relationship and what George does in the end.
- 🍎 Be creative, interesting, humorous, and still factual in your writing.

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1      Of Mice and Men is a novel about kindness and intelligence.