



Tokay High School

May 18, 2019

Dear Tokay Tiger freshman pre-AP student:

Welcome into the world of Tokay High School's 2019-2020 pre-AP English 9 Honors class. In this accelerated class, you will work in an enriched academic environment—an environment developed to prepare students for rigorous work in Tokay's honors and Advanced Placement classes and college.

As a preliminary exercise, you must complete a summer reading assignment, which will help you in your studies during the fall term. The required reading is John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men. The novel is available in public libraries, at Amazon.com, and at retail outlets such as Barnes and Noble. Don't be afraid to check out used bookstores. Books will also be available to check out June 3-8 from Tokay's library from 8 a.m.-noon, with a student identification card. Your middle school card will work until you receive your official Tokay one. Please contact Tokay librarian Mr. Johnston at 331-7895 to make arrangements. Since initial class discussions, other quizzes and a timed in-class essay will be based on this book, you are encouraged to highlight or use post-its to mark sections of the text regarding conflict, character, and theme as well as questions needing clarification.

When you are finished reading, take the quizzes which are included in this letter. The quizzes are quite challenging as they are styled after Advanced Placement-type thinking, reasoning, logic, etc. In addition to writing your response, write how you arrived at the answers. "I don't know" or "I guessed" will be marked incorrect. I want to see your thinking process.

Please be sure that you read and review this novel before classes begin July 30. The assignment will be collected at the beginning of the period and scored during the weekend.

If you have any questions, please feel free to leave a message at the e-mail address listed below. I am looking forward to working with you in a rigorous and challenging environment.

Sincerely,

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Directions: This part consists of selections from *Of Mice and Men* and questions on their content, form, and style. After reading a passage, choose the best answer to each question.

Note: Pay particular attention to the requirement of questions that contain the word NOT, LEAST, or EXCEPT.

Passage 1, Questions 1-7. Read the passage from the first section which begins "Evening of a hot day" and ends "'Aw, leave me have it, George'" (pages 2-5) carefully before you choose your answers.

1. The description of the two men in the second paragraph serves primarily to
 - (A) contrast their physical appearances
 - (B) reveal their close relationship
 - (C) underline their conflicting natures
 - (D) emphasize their similar economic status
 - (E) foreshadow conflict between the two

2. The description of Lennie in the second and third paragraphs is most notable for its
 - (A) harsh appraisal of his physical deformities
 - (B) emphasis on his small size and his restlessness
 - (C) focus on his mental shortcomings
 - (D) omission of figurative language
 - (E) preponderance of animal imagery

3. Lennie's imitation of George's posture (in the paragraph beginning "George knelt") reveals that
 - (A) Lennie tends to mock George when George is not looking
 - (B) George has great respect for Lennie even if he does not say so
 - (C) Lennie admires George, seeing him as a role model
 - (D) Lennie only learns by doing and by imitating others
 - (E) both men are accustomed to camping out

4. George's angry tirade about the bus driver shows that
 - (A) the bus driver had been rude to George and Lennie
 - (B) George felt the driver had been supercilious and disdainful
 - (C) George is really angry with Lennie but diverts his anger toward the driver
 - (D) George likes walking long distances in hot weather
 - (E) the bus driver was lazy and did not know the area

5. Lennie's slowness of thought is revealed primarily through
 - (A) diction and imagery
 - (B) ellipsis and repetition
 - (C) syntax and inverted word order
 - (D) figurative language and symbolism
 - (E) euphemisms and syllogisms

6. Lennie's assertion, "I didn't kill it. Honest," implies that

- (A) Lennie often lies to George about what he has done
- (B) George usually believes what Lennie tells him
- (C) both Lennie and George like mice
- (D) Lennie has killed small animals in the past
- (E) Lennie enjoys killing for the sense of power it gives him

7. As used in the last sentence, "Aw, leave me have it, George," the word "leave" is best understood to mean

- (A) depart
- (B) abandon
- (C) remain
- (D) let
- (E) cease

Passage 2. Questions 8-15. Read the passage from the first section of *Of Mice and Men* which begins “There’s enough beans for four men” and ends “. . . passed one of them to Lennie” (pages 10-15) carefully before you choose your answers.

8. In the third paragraph, the principal contrast presented is that between
- (A) what Lennie wants and what George wants
 - (B) what Lennie does and what George says
 - (C) vague realities and specific wishes
 - (D) George’s fantasies and the realities of his life
 - (E) what George says and what Lennie does
9. In the third paragraph, “Lennie’s face was drawn with terror” because he feared that George
- I. might physically attack him
 - II. intended to desert Lennie, leaving him all alone
 - III. planned to start wasting his money in bars and cat houses
- (A) I only
 - (B) II only
 - (C) I and III only
 - (D) II and III only
 - (E) I, II, and III
10. The speaker’s tone in “‘Jus’ wanted to . . . like it was a mouse’” could best be described as
- (A) taunting and childish
 - (B) angry and hostile
 - (C) girlish and teasing
 - (D) childlike and churlish
 - (E) satiric and humorous
11. Lennie’s response (“‘you want I should go away . . .’”) to George’s tirade reveals Lennie’s
- (A) knowledge that he can manipulate George
 - (B) willingness to put George’s happiness before his own
 - (C) awareness that his wish for ketchup was unrealistic
 - (D) belief that George really hates him
 - (E) fear of what George might do if Lennie stays with him
12. Which of the following comments by Lennie makes George realize how cruel he has been to Lennie?
- (A) “‘I’d leave it all for you.’”
 - (B) “‘Well, I could.’”
 - (C) “‘I don’t need no nice food with ketchup’”
 - (D) “‘I’d lay out in the sun and nobody’d hurt me.’”
 - (E) “‘Nobody’d take it away from me.’”

13. Which of the following contributes LEAST to creating the imagery of a parent's reading a story to a child when George tells the story of their dreams?
- (A) "“You ain't gonna put nothing over on me.”"
 - (B) "“Awright, I'll tell you, and then we'll eat our supper.”"
 - (C) "George's voice became deeper."
 - (D) "He repeated his words rhythmically"
 - (E) "“I ain't got time for no more.”"
14. George's recitation beginning "George's voice became deeper . . ." and ending at the end of the passage makes what George said in the third paragraph
- (A) satiric
 - (B) insincere
 - (C) ironic
 - (D) deceitful
 - (E) sadistic
15. The passage as a whole serves primarily to
- (A) portray the two men as outcasts from the rest of society
 - (B) reveal the dominating influence George has over Lennie
 - (C) hint that Lennie is actually the more powerful of the two men
 - (D) show the strength of the bond between Lennie and George
 - (E) stress the doomed nature of the two men's friendship