



OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

LOCATION

Building(s): OOHS

Classes/Grade Level(s): CP English 9, Honors English 9

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: *Of Mice and Men*/John Steinbeck

Genre: Realistic Fiction - 20th century American Literature

Lexile Reading Level: 630L

Total number of pages: 107

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)

The classic portrait of two outsiders struggling to understand their own unique places in the world--Clinging to one another in their loneliness and alienation, George and his simple-minded friend Lennie dream, as drifters will, of a place to call their own. But after they come to work at a ranch in California's Salinas Valley, their hopes, like "the best laid schemes "of mice and men" begin to go awry. (Book cover) Truly one of the unsung triumphs of 1939, this heartfelt adaptation of John Steinbeck's morality tale of two itinerant migrant workers seems just as fresh and powerful decades after its release. Lon Chaney Jr. gives the performance of a lifetime as the sweet yet feeble-minded Lennie, who is befriended by the weary Burgess Meredith. They both would be lost without each other in a rather mixed-up world. Sensitively directed by Lewis Milestone (*All Quiet on the Western Front*), the film features the first pre-credit sequence in American film history. There's also a nice score by Aaron Copland. --Bill Desowitz

Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)

Violence

Chapter 6

"And George raised the gun and steadied it, and he brought the muzzle of it close to the back of Lennie's head. The hand shook violently, but his face set and his hand steadied. He pulled the trigger. The crash of the shot rolled up the hills and rolled down again. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering" (106).

Strong/Offensive Language

Chapter 4

"If I say something, why it's just a nigger sayin' it" (70).

Animal Violence

Chapter 2 "She slang her pups last night," said Slim. "nine of 'em. I drowned four of 'em right off. She couldn't feed that many" (35).

Sexually suggestive language



	<p>Chapter 3 George sighed. "You give me a good whore house every time," he said. "A guy can go in an' get drunk and get ever'thing outa his system all at once, an' no messes. And he knows how much it's gonna set him back. These here jail baits is just set on the trigger of the hoosegow."</p>
<p>Book Reviews (1-2 link(s)) <i>Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links</i> https://www.nytimes.com/1937/02/28/archives/john-steinbecks-tale-of-drifting-men-of-mice-and-men-by-john.html https://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-12829392</p>	

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards): (To be completed by the teacher or team)

This text portrays several realistic examples of characters who were on the fringes of society during this particular time period. They will explore themes including friendship, marginalization, and attainment of the American dream. They will look at literary devices such as symbolism, characterization, author's style, the use of the vernacular, and foreshadowing. This text serves as a strong introduction to high school English Language Arts standards based on its lexile level and strategic thematic development.

The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards only and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

1. RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
2. RL.9-10.2 Analyze literary text development. a. Determine a theme of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and



refined by specific details. b. Provide an objective summary of the text that includes the theme and relevant story elements.

3. W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (1-2 texts, title/author; Note: these texts must also have lit. reviews forms associated with their selection)

1. To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
2. A Lesson Before Dying, Ernest J. Gaines

SIGNATURES (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher: Kyle Heger Date: 8/17/22
Department Chair: [Signature] Date: 8/17/22
Building Principal: [Signature] Date: 8/17/22
District Curriculum Administrator: [Signature] Date: 8/21/22