

Grade 10 Summer Work

Assignment instructions:

- Read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck carefully and closely for meaning.
- Your response should be typed; work on paper will not be accepted.
- Answer TWO of the below questions in individual paragraphs.
- Write 8-10 clear, connecting descriptive sentences in each paragraph.
- Paragraphs should begin with a strong topic sentence that is informative and engaging.
- Incorporate interesting and insightful ideas and examples to express understanding.
- Use MLA format: 12 point font, double spaced, page numbers with name, works cited, and in text citations.
- Edit to ensure there are no errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar.
- Refer to the rubric before beginning your writing and whilst you write.
- This is due day one of school as a shared Google doc on Google classroom.
- Turn in original work. Do not use sources such as Cliff Notes, Shmoop, and Sparknotes. To do so is considered a violation of the honor code. Plagiarism is an automatic zero.

Choose TWO of the following questions and answer with (at least) one complete paragraph each. Remember, a strong paragraph should begin with a topic sentence and contain at least 8 - 10 clear, connecting descriptive sentences using specific examples with MLA in text citations.

1. George and Lenny have a special friendship that is beneficial to each character. Companionship is essential to the human experience. George makes a difficult decision at the end of the book. Is George's decision an act of betrayal or mercy?
2. Is George a true friend or a brute? Explain why or why not. Take a stance on George's final decision and use text evidence to support their claim. Evidence could include: events and descriptions that characterize both George, Lennie and their relationship, descriptions of the social climate as described in the book, punishment of undesirable behavior, and treatment of people who do not fit the norm of society.
3. The Ranch can be viewed as a microcosm of society at the time of The Great Depression. Describe at least three social injustices portrayed on The Ranch. The response should do more than describe racism or sexism. Evaluate both the injustice and the way that Steinbeck portrays it. Specifically, consider how the diction, syntax, imagery, and other literary elements contribute to the message that society is unjust.

18 - 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 questions are answered with a complete paragraph for each question. ● The assignment is typed ● Each paragraph begins with a strong topic sentence. ● There are ample clear, connecting descriptive sentences in each paragraph. ● Interesting examples to express clear understanding are incorporated. ● Correct MLA format is used. ● There are no errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar. ● This is original work.
15 - 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 questions are answered with a paragraph for each question. ● Each paragraph begins with a topic sentence. ● There are clear, connecting descriptive sentences in each paragraph. ● Examples to express clear understanding are incorporated. ● MLA format is used. ● There are a few errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar. ● This is original work.
12 - 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 or 2 questions are answered with a paragraph for each question. ● There is a weak (or no) topic sentence. ● Sentences are somewhat unclear or ineffective. ● There are weak (or no) examples to express clear understanding. ● Citations are needed and not used, or used incorrectly. ● MLA format might be attempted, but may not be accurate. ● There are errors in spelling, punctuation, or/and grammar. ● This is original work.
9 - 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 or 2 questions are answered, ● There is no topic sentence. ● Sentences are unclear and/or ineffective. ● There are no examples that express clear understanding. ● Citations are needed and not used, or used incorrectly. ● MLA format is either not attempted, or inaccurate. ● There are some errors in spelling, punctuation, or/and grammar. ● Work is original, but may rely heavily on other research or sources.
6 - 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 question is answered. ● There is no topic sentence. ● Sentences are unclear and ineffective. ● There are no examples that express clear understanding. ● Citations are needed and not used, or used incorrectly. ● MLA format is either not attempted, or inaccurate. ● There are frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, or/and grammar. ● Work might not be original, or from Cliff Notes, Shmoop, Sparknotes, etc.
5 - 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 question is answered. ● There is no topic sentence. ● Sentences are unclear and ineffective. ● There are no examples that express clear understanding. ● Citations are needed and not used, or used incorrectly. ● MLA format is either not attempted, or inaccurate. ● Errors in spelling, punctuation, or/and grammar make the work hard to understand. ● Work isn't original, or from Cliff Notes, Shmoop, Sparknotes, etc.
2 - 0	Work is incomplete or insufficient.

