

Summer Reading Assignment – *Of Mice and Men*
English 9 Honors

Welcome to 9th grade honors English! In order to prepare for the rigor of this class please complete the following tasks over the summer.

There are four components:

1. Reading and Annotations
2. Chapter Summaries
3. Vocabulary
4. Character Reviews

If you have any questions, please contact your teacher by email. You may contact Ms. Bendetti and/or Ms. Ludlow with any questions at nicole.bendetti@eischools.org and chloe.ludlow@eischools.org.

READING & ANNOTATIONS

You will receive a printed copy of *Of Mice and Men*. You must fully annotate your copy of *Of Mice and Men* and **take notes in the margins**. If you are not sure what to annotate for, please consider annotating for the following...

- New settings/ Repeating settings
- Reactions to plot/events
- Summarizing important events
- Introductions to new characters
- When you agree or disagree with something a character does
- Internal or external conflicts
- Themes
- Examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, hyperbole)
- Literary devices (foreshadowing, flashback and imagery (there is so much imagery))
- Important symbols or motifs
- Predictions for later in the novel
- Any questions you have

****You should have a minimum of 3-5 annotations on a page to receive full credit****

CHAPTER SUMMARIES

For each section/chapter, include:

- **Summary:** A short summary of important plot points and key characters
- **Quotations:** At least 2 important quotations and an explanation of why the quote is significant
- **Opinion:** One personal opinion you have about this chapter and why you feel that way

*Please label each element so that it is clear. For example: **Chapter 1: Summary**

Chapter 1: Quotations

Chapter 1: Opinion

VOCABULARY

Define the words listed below. Number the list and keep the words in the order they are given here. Include:

- The page number from your edition where Steinbeck uses the word
- The part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc.)
- The definition of the word as it is used in the text

There will be a vocabulary quiz on these words during the third week of school.

- ★ bindle
- ★ imperiously
- ★ juncture
- ★ lumbered
- ★ morosely
- ★ apprehensive
- ★ barley
- ★ contorted
- ★ derogatory
- ★ swamper
- ★ bemused
- ★ cowering
- ★ derision
- ★ reprehensible
- ★ scuttled
- ★ aloof
- ★ appraised
- ★ crestfallen
- ★ disarming
- ★ indignation
- ★ consoled
- ★ earnestly
- ★ hovered
- ★ wisps
- ★ writhed
- ★ belligerently
- ★ gingham
- ★ monotonous
- ★ scornfully
- ★ sullenly

CHARACTER REVIEWS

Below is a list of characters from the novel to evaluate. For each character, identify:

- **One** major strength
- **One** major weakness

Then, explain your reasoning using:

- A specific example from the novel
- One direct quotation
- The page number

Please format each character's strengths and weaknesses as a T-chart or within a table. For example...

Lennie Small

Strengths	Weaknesses
One of Lennie's strengths is his.... This is made clear when...	One of Lennie's weaknesses is his.... This is made clear when...

Your explanations should demonstrate thoughtful analysis of the characters and how Steinbeck develops them throughout the novel.

Character List

- ★ George Milton
- ★ Lennie Small
- ★ Candy
- ★ Slim
- ★ Curley
- ★ Curley's wife
- ★ Crooks
- ★ Carlson
- ★ The Boss

The due date for these assignments is Friday, September 18. We hope you enjoy reading *Of Mice and Men* this summer, and we look forward to discussing it with you in class!

Please note that all work should be your own. AI is not to be used for any portion of this assignment.