

***Of Mice and Men* Reading Quiz 1 – Section 1**

1. The first smaller man we are introduced to has “small strong hands, slender arms, a thin bony nose” (2). This man’s name is _____.

The second man is a “huge man, shapeless of face, with large pale eyes, with wide sloping shoulders” (2). His name is _____.

2. We can assume that George is the leader of these two men, as it becomes clear that Lennie has difficulty _____ things.

- _____ 3. What does George order Lennie not to do when they get to their new job at the ranch?

- A. Talk too much or too often
- B. Work too slowly
- C. Forget what his jobs are
- D. Tell them what happened in Weed

4. Lennie likes mice because they are _____, but this is a problem because he usually pets them so hard that he ends up _____ them.

- _____ 5. At the beginning of the novel, Lennie and George are coming from

- A. Visiting Lennie’s Aunt Clara
- B. Weed, a town up north
- C. Their house, where they raise cows, pigs, and rabbits
- D. A ranch, a quarter mile away

- _____ 6. Lennie and George left their last job because

- A. They had a better offer somewhere else
- B. They left to buy a place of their own
- C. Lennie got into trouble for feeling a girl’s dress
- D. George got into trouble for feeling a girl’s dress

- _____ 7. Lennie keeps getting into trouble because

- A. He has an uncontrollable temper
- B. He doesn’t listen to what George tells him
- C. He has difficulty remembering things and learning
- D. He has an unhealthy obsession with mice

- _____ 8. George and Lennie are different than other “guys” that work on ranches because
- A. They have each other for support
 - B. They are more skilled workers
 - C. They have their own pieces of land
 - D. They are willing to work anywhere there’s a job
- _____ 9. George and Lennie plan to support themselves on their own place
- A. By using the inheritance Lennie got from Aunt Clara
 - B. By living off the land, producing their own food
 - C. By stealing the money they need
 - D. By working at other ranches
- _____ 10. Lennie wants to look after the rabbits because
- A. His favourite food is rabbit stew
 - B. His Aunt Clara wants him to raise rabbits
 - C. He thinks he could make good money raising rabbits
 - D. He likes that they are soft and furry
- _____ 11. Which of the following is NOT a part of the setting in *Of Mice and Men*?
- A. The novel takes place in the country, near Soledad
 - B. Two men, George and Lennie, stop to eat and rest
 - C. It is the evening of a hot day
 - D. Ranch workers and tramps come to the deep, green pool to sit and swim beneath the sycamore tree.

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 2 – Section 2

1. The old man, Candy, is missing his right _____.
2. The stable buck, Crooks, is a black man with a corkscrew back where a _____ kicked him.
3. _____ **True or False?** The boss wears high-heeled boots and spurs to prove that he is not a laboring man.
- _____ 4. The boss is suspicious of George and Lennie's relationship because
 - A. He thinks that Lennie got into some sort of trouble in Weed
 - B. He thinks that one of them might not be a hard worker
 - C. He thinks that they might cause trouble at his ranch
 - D. He thinks that George is using Lennie and taking his money
- _____ 5. When Curley is around men who are bigger than him, he usually
 - A. Tells them what to do
 - B. Picks fights with them
 - C. Feels intimidated by them
 - D. Gets into shouting matches with them
6. _____ **True or False?** Candy doesn't like Curley's wife because she ignores the ranch workers.
7. Who does George warn Lennie to stay away from? _____
8. What does Slim have that Lennie wants? _____
- _____ 9. Which of the following quotations best shows that Lennie doesn't know his own strength?
 - A. "Well, he better watch out for Lennie. Lennie ain't no fighter, but Lennie's strong and quick and Lennie don't know no rules."
 - B. "That mouse ain't fresh, Lennie; and beside, you've broke it pettin' it."
 - C. "He can put up a four hundred pound bale."
 - D. "He got kicked in the head by a horse when he was a kid."

_____ 10. Which of the following quotations best shows that George cares about Lennie and wants to protect him?

- A. "He's my...cousin. I told his old lady I'd take care of him."
- B. "Look, Lennie, if you get in any kind of trouble, you remember what I told you to do? ...Hide in the brush by the river."
- C. "We'll get out jus' as soon as we can. I don't like it no better than you do."
- D. "He can rassel grain bags, drive a cultivator. He can do anything. Just give him a try."

11. Match the phrase on the left with the character's name on the right.

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| _____ A talkative old man | 1. George |
| _____ Takes responsibility | 2. Candy |
| _____ Strong as a bull | 3. Lennie |
| _____ A little guy who hates big guys | 4. Curley |
| _____ His word was taken on any subject | 5. Slim |

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 3 – Section 3

_____ 1. The main reason George and Lennie travel together is because

- A. They have known each other for a long time.
- B. They were both born in Auburn, California
- C. George doesn't have any family of his own.
- D. Lennie's Aunt Clara died

2. When George and Lennie were younger, George used to tease Lennie and play jokes on him. However, one day something happened that changed George's attitude towards Lennie. What happened?

3. What do Candy and his dog have in common, and why does this make the shooting of Candy's dog so ironic?

4. When talking about their dream of owning their own farm, Lennie says repeatedly, "We could _____ off the _____ the _____."

5. What is the main reason why George and Lennie would like to own their own place?

6. Candy would like to join George and Lennie in their plan to buy their own place. He tells them he could contribute _____ dollars to it.

7. Complete the simile that Carlson uses to describe Curley. "He's as _____ as a frog _____."
8. _____ **True** or **False**? Curley attacks Lennie when Lennie "talks back" to him.
9. After Lennie crushes Curley's hand, Slim suggests that Curley tell everyone that he got his hand crushed in a _____, rather than telling the truth. (machine)
- _____ 10. Slim's opinion of Lennie is that he is
- A. Dangerous because of what happened with the girl in Weed
 - B. A good worker who isn't mean
 - C. Too much of a 'cuckoo' to keep working at the ranch
 - D. Too big, and therefore a threat

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 4 – Section 4

1. Crooks, the stable buck, has a bunk in the harness room. He is not allowed to live with the other farm workers because he is _____.
2. _____ **True** or **False**? As soon as Lennie shows up to visit, Crooks is happy to have his company.
3. What does Crooks say to Lennie that really scares him?

4. Crooks says, "...Don't make no difference who the guy is, long's he's with you. I tell ya...I tell ya a guy gets _____ an' he gets sick" (72-73).
5. _____ **True** or **False**? Crooks tells Lennie that he thinks it won't be too long before they manage to buy their own piece of land.
6. Candy eventually shows up in the harness room and Crooks surprisingly invites him to come in and sit down for a while. When Candy tells Crooks that he, George and Lennie almost have enough money to buy a farm, Crooks offers to _____ for them if they let him in on the dream.
- _____ 7. The real reason why Curley's wife shows up at Crook's room is because she is
 - A. Curious about what they are doing
 - B. Keeping an eye on them while her husband is out
 - C. Lonely and looking for company*
 - D. Looking for someone to haul water to the house
- _____ 8. At the end of this section, Crooks has decided he doesn't want to be part of George, Lennie, and Candy's dream because
 - A. Lennie and Candy have annoyed him too much
 - B. He has decided he wants to buy his own farm
 - C. He realizes that his best bet is to stay at the ranch
 - D. He realizes that he has no hope for anything better than what he's got.

_____ 9. Crooks acts like he doesn't want to be around other men because

- A. He knows the other men don't want him around because of his colour
- B. He prefers to be alone
- C. He doesn't like the other workers
- D. He thinks he is better than the other workers

_____ 10. Which line best shows that Crooks is really pleased to have company?

- A. Crook's face lighted with pleasure in his torture
- B. "Long as you won't get out and leave me alone, you might as well set down." His tone was a little more friendly.
- C. "Come on in. If ever'body's comin' in, you might just as well." It was difficult for Crooks to conceal his pleasure with anger.
- D. Crooks said irritably, "You can come in if you want."

_____ 11. Curley's wife dreamed of

- A. Being in the movies
- B. Owning a big house in the city
- C. Being the perfect ranch wife
- D. Having a house full of children

***Of Mice and Men* Reading Quiz 5 – Section 5**

1. Lennie has made a mistake and killed his _____ by accident.
2. _____ **True or False?** When Curley's wife talks to Lennie, she flirts with him.
3. Curley's wife says, "I don't like Curley. He ain't a _____ fella."
4. Curley's wife lets Lennie touch her hair, showing that she trusts him. However, she starts to worry that he's going to mess up her hair and tries to jerk away from him. Lennie panics and grabs her hair, eventually covering her mouth and _____ her neck.
5. _____ **True or False?** Lennie realizes that he has done a 'bad thing' and goes back to the ranch to tell George what happened.
6. Candy discovers the body of Curley's wife, but instead of going to get Curley, he goes and gets _____.
7. When Curley learns what has happened, he is understandably very angry. He tells the others he wants to _____ Lennie in the guts, and give him a slow, painful death.
- _____ 8. Candy's greatest fear after Curley's wife is killed, is that
 - A. He will be blamed for her death
 - B. Lennie will kill someone else
 - C. The dream of the farm will never come true
 - D. He will have to buy a farm on his own
- _____ 9. Lennie kills Curley's wife because
 - A. He wanted to punish her for flirting with all the men.
 - B. He was afraid George wouldn't let him tend the rabbits after she began to struggle and scream
 - C. He was angry because she said that George might not come back from town
 - D. He is a mean and violent person

- _____ 10. Which of the following foreshadowed Lennie's killing of Curley's wife?
- A. Lennie pinched the heads of the mice when they bit his fingers
 - B. Lennie got scared and wouldn't let go of the girl's dress in Weed
 - C. George said, "she's gonna make a mess. They's gonna be a bad mess about her."
 - D. Lennie accidentally killed his pup.
 - E. All of the above.

Of Mice and Men Unit Quiz

1. Complete the simile used to describe Lennie. "He came as silently as a creeping _____ moves.

_____ 2. The visions of Aunt Clara and the giant rabbit tell Lennie

- A. To go back and find George
- B. That he has let George down
- C. That Curley is going to kill him
- D. Not to worry, because everything will be all right

_____ 3. George kills Lennie because

- A. He is angry that he killed Curley's wife
- B. He is tired of Lennie causing him trouble all of the time
- C. He wants to keep Lennie from being hurt or caged
- D. He is afraid that Lennie will kill him, too

_____ 4. After the giant rabbit 'talks' to Lennie, he feels afraid

- A. That George will leave him
- B. That Curley is going to come and shoot him
- C. That Aunt Clara will get mad at him
- D. That Slim won't give him another pup

_____ 5. Who comforts George after he kills Lennie?

- A. Candy
- B. Slim
- C. Crooks
- D. Carlson

6. After George arrives, he calms Lennie down by talking the way they always did about why they are different from other guys. Lennie says triumphantly, “An’ I got you. We got each other, that’s what, that gives a hoot in hell about us.”

What is ironic about Lennie saying this at this particular point in the novel?

7. One of the main themes in this novel is loneliness. However, George and Lennie don’t experience loneliness like other men do, because they have each other.

Using specific support from the novel, prove that George and Lennie are good friends, even at the end of the novel.

8. Beginning in the first section of the novel, John Steinbeck provides many clues that foreshadow Lennie's death.

Pick two incidents from the novel that foreshadow this event and explain exactly how they are effective.

[illegible]

9. Setting in this novel is very important. The story takes place during the Great Depression, a time when many people were forced to leave their homes in search of work.

Using specific references to the novel, explain how the setting impacts the plot and the characters in *Of Mice and Men*.

10. We realize that George kills Lennie not to punish him for Curley's wife's death, but instead to protect him from a possibly worse fate at the hands of Curley. Do you feel George's reason is justified?

Support your opinion using details from the novel as well as your own personal views on the issue.

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11. Why is the title *Of Mice and Men* an appropriate one for the story? Provide details from the novel to support your ideas.

[illegible]

12. In a well-developed paragraph, discuss what you think author John Steinbeck's message is about **one** of the following subjects in *Of Mice and Men*: Loneliness, Unfulfilled Dreams, Friendship, and Responsibility.

Be sure to support your idea with two or three details or examples from the novel.

[illegible]

***Of Mice and Men* Reading Quizzes – KEY**

***Of Mice and Men* Reading Quiz 1 – Section 1**

1. *George, Lennie*
2. *Remembering*
3. *A*
4. *soft and pretty/pretty and soft, killing*
5. *B*
6. *C*
7. *C*
8. *A*
9. *B*
10. *D*
11. *B*

***Of Mice and Men* Reading Quiz 2- Section 2**

1. *Hand*
2. *Horse*
3. *True*
4. *D*
5. *B*
6. *False—Candy doesn't like Curley's wife because she flirts too much with the ranch workers*
7. *Curley*
8. *(puppies, a puppy)*
9. *A*
10. *B*
11. *A talkative old man 2*
Takes responsibility 1
Strong as a bull 3
A little guy who hates big guys 4
His word was taken on any subject 5

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 3 – Section 3

1. *D*
2. *George told Lennie to go jump into the Sacramento River. He did, and almost drowned, but George saved him and Lennie was really grateful, which only made George feel even guiltier*
3. *Candy and his dog are both 'lame' and therefore not as useful anymore. Candy's dog's shooting brings up the bigger question of whether anyone, Candy or Lennie included, should be kept around if they are not 'useful' anymore.*
4. *Live, fatta, lan*
5. *They wouldn't have to work for anyone, anymore.*
6. *\$350*
7. *Yella, belly*
8. *False-Lennie is smiling as he remembers the rabbits and the ranch. However, Curley thinks he's laughing at him and attacks Lennie*
9. *Machine*
10. *B*

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 4 – Section 4

1. *black, coloured, African-American, a Negro*
2. *False: At first Crooks is irritated by Lennie's presence, though this is more because he is not used to others' company. By the time Candy shows up, Crooks is quite happy to have people to talk to.*
3. *Crooks suggests that George might not come back from town, and then Lennie might end up in a home for the mentally handicapped*
4. *Lonely*
5. *False: He says that everyone has this same dream, but that it never becomes a reality for them.*
6. *Work*
7. *C*
8. *D*
9. *A*
10. *C*
11. *A*

Of Mice and Men Reading Quiz 5 – Section 5

1. *Puppy, dog*
2. *False: Curley's wife talks to Lennie because she realizes he is different from the other ranch men. He is gentle and kind, and will actually talk to her!*
3. *Nice*
4. *breaking, snapping)*
5. *False: he goes and hides in the brush, just as George told him to do if he got in trouble)*
6. *George*
7. *Shoot*
8. *C*
9. *B*
10. *E*

Of Mice and Men Unit Quiz

1. *Bear*
2. *B*
3. *C*
4. *A*
5. *B*
6. *(Ironic because both the reader and George know that this situation is not like the other times. These friends can't run away and go to work somewhere else, supporting each other as they always have. George has to make the most important decision of his life, and even though he still cares about Lennie, he has no way to save him this time)*
7. *Answers may vary—No matter what, George tries to keep Lennie out of trouble, and always is looking out for Lennie's best interest. Lennie in turn is loyal to the end and trusts George entirely, even as George takes the approach of killing Lennie to ensure nothing more awful happens to him.*
8. *Answers may vary—Lennie's treatment of the mice, the incident in Weed, the incident with the puppy, the incident with Curley's wife*
9. *Answers may vary—a very hard time that hardened a lot of people's attitudes and ideas about fairness. Survival was very difficult and required a lot of work, sacrifice and tough decisions.*
10. *Answers may vary*
11. *Answers may vary. The quote; "The best laid plans of mice and men..." explains a lot of this. Dreamers. The fact that mice is mentioned is just a coincidence, but has to do with the differences between man and beast and their ideals.*
12. *Answers may vary.*