



Of Mice and Men

Essay Prompts

In a well-developed essay, answer **ONE** of the following:

Option #1: Author John Steinbeck often uses animal imagery when discussing/describing Lennie. Why do you think Steinbeck chose to use these images? What point was he trying to make to the reader about this character and, to a larger extent, about the working class people of the time? Examine Steinbeck's use of these images and explain your reasoning about how these images connect to Steinbeck's larger point.

Option #2: Sunlight and darkness are important elements in the novel. Steinbeck uses these elements as both foreshadowing and symbolism. Why do you think Steinbeck chose to use these images? What point was he trying to make to the reader and how do the light/dark images help him accomplish this goal? Examine Steinbeck's use of sunlight and darkness and explain your reasoning about how these images connect to Steinbeck's larger point.

Option #3: Many of the characters in the novel are isolated and openly discuss their feelings of loneliness. Choose three characters and examine how Steinbeck uses them to help deliver his greater message to the reader.



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