

Name_____ Period_____ *Of Mice and Men* Study Questions

Directions: Carefully consider each question and answer in one or two complete sentences. Be thoughtful in your responses.

Chapter 1

1. Where does the story occur? Give a name and description of the area.
2. Name several behaviors Lennie exhibits which show he is dependent on George.
3. How does George feel about Lennie?
4. Why did they have to leave their last jobs in Weed?
5. What is Lennie's dream? Does George share this dream?
6. Why is this book called *Of Mice and Men*?

Chapter 2

1. What evidence of racial prejudice do we find in this chapter?
2. Describe the ranch boss.
3. Why does George "take so much trouble" for Lennie?

4. Who is Curley and what is his problem?
5. Why do George and Lennie both want to leave?

Chapter 3

1. Was it right to shoot Candy's little dog? Explain.
2. What do you think Candy was thinking after he heard the shot? (page 54) (Think about what he says to George on page 66.)
3. Why does George spend so much time playing solitaire?
4. Describe Susy's place.
5. As George describes the "dream place" he and Lennie are looking for, he gives a clue as to why he wants this place so much. What phrase does George use which gives this clue?
6. What is Candy's reaction when he hears George talking about "his place"?

Chapter 4

1. Does John Steinbeck share the racial attitudes of his characters? How can you tell?

2. What does the description of Crook's room tell you about him?
3. What does Crooks miss most in life?
4. What do Crooks, Lennie, and Candy have in common?

Chapter 5

1. Why doesn't Steinbeck give Curley's wife a name?
2. What new insights do we get into Curley's wife in this chapter?
3. Why does Curley's wife confide in Lennie (about not liking her husband)?
4. Is Lennie guilty of murder? Explain.
5. What does George mean when he says, "I should of knew... I guess maybe we back in my head I did"?

Chapter 6

1. Why does Steinbeck return to the same type of nature description he began Chapter 1 with?
2. What do Lennie's mental creations of Aunt Clara and the giant rabbit tell us about Lennie?

3. Why does George seem so calm when he finds Lennie by the river?

4. Did George do the right thing when he shot Lennie? Explain?