

Of Mice and Men Reader's Notebook



Assignment: While they read, good readers think and use strategies to guide their thinking. As you read *Of Mice and Men*, you will keep a reader's notebook as a strategic note-taking space. You should feel free to use your notebook to jot down reflections and analysis regarding the thematic topics Steinbeck presents in his novella. You are required to create 8 entries that address 3 specific literary elements, 3 specific thematic topics, summaries, and reflections.

Literary Elements (choose 3)

- Setting
- Symbolism/Motifs
- Characterization
- 1 Choice Literary Device

Thematic Topics (choose 3)

- The American Dream - working class
- Prejudice/Discrimination (race / gender / mental health)
- Friendship / Loneliness
- Strength / Weakness

Notebook Checklist (must be completed in this order in your Reader's Notebook - you will have 8 total entries)

Summaries

- ☐ Summaries (6 points)
 - ☐ Retell the story: summarize the main points of the story by chapter (6 summaries total - at the beginning of each entry)

Literary Elements (Choose 3)

- ☐ Setting (10 points)
 - ☐ Define entry terms (setting, and additional terms found in the description- simile, metaphor, allusion, imagery, personification, etc.)
 - ☐ Direct Quotes
 - ☐ Analysis of the significance of the quote to the setting
 - ☐ Relevant image
- ☐ Symbolism or Motif (10 points)
 - ☐ Define entry terms (symbolism & motif)
 - ☐ Direct Quotes
 - ☐ Analysis of the quote to the symbol or motif
 - ☐ Relevant image
- ☐ Characterization - choose indirect or direct - (10 points)
 - ☐ Define entry terms (indirect & direct characterization)
 - ☐ Original image of selected character - modeled w/textual description in mind
 - ☐ Textual Evidence for each of the following categories:
 - ☐ Speech
 - ☐ Thoughts & feelings
 - ☐ Effect on others
 - ☐ Actions
 - ☐ A reflection or analysis of the character & their purpose

