

*Of Mice & Men*  
Guided Reading Questions  
English II

Name \_\_\_\_\_

These questions are to serve as a guide for your reading of *Of Mice & Men*. You should be prepared on the first day of English class (even you don't have English until Winter Term) to answer these questions. There will be a quiz over the book, (plot, characters, etc) and you will have to answer one or two of the below questions as the essay portion. If you have specific questions about the assignment, you may reach me at, [kpeterso@rayder.net](mailto:kpeterso@rayder.net) . I hope you enjoy the reading – it's a great book!

1. What is Symbiosis and how does it relate to *Of Mice & Men*?
2. Why type of Symbiotic relationship to the characters in the book?
3. What is Crook's attitude about life? Develop a thesis and use three examples to support your thesis.
4. Steinbeck uses foreshadowing to predict what will happen between Lennie and Curley's wife. Explain four spots in the novel which foreshadow this outcome.
5. Examine Steinbeck's use of imagery in *Of Mice & Men*. Using two specific examples of imagery, then explain how they add to the overall plot of the novel.
6. Argue if you believe that Lennie's death qualifies as the climax as the novel.
7. Based on what you've read in *Of Mice and Mice*, answer the following questions about relationships. Use the book as a basis for your answer, and make sure you support your thesis with evidence from the novel. Also use your own real-life experience as evidence and a basis for answering the questions.
  - a. What are the benefits to having a relationship?
  - b. Are all relationships equal?
  - c. How do relationships shape our lives?
  - d. What are the trade-offs in relationships?
  - e. What determines the relationships we have?
  - f. How do class, religion, race and culture determine what kind of relationships we have?
  - g. What role does empathy play in relationships?
  - h. What place does a dream/vision have in one's life/relationship?
8. Was the relationship between George and Lennie a mutually beneficial, win-win relationship? Support your thesis with four specific details.

9. Choose a relationship you currently have in your own life and determine which type of symbiotic relationship it is. Use three specific examples.
10. Argue if you think George was justified in killing Lennie.
11. Now that you know the resolution of the novel, explain two reasons why you think Steinbeck didn't give Curley's wife a name.