OF MICE & MEN REVIEW

Take notes...you will thank yourself later!
Symbolism = A person, place, or thing that represents something else.

- For example, in literature, a symbol may represent an idea, theme, or character.
SYMBOLS #1

Crooks’s bare light bulb

• Meaning = Lonliness, isolation, weakness

• Explanation = The light bulb is as solitary (alone) and as weak as Crooks.
SYMBOLS #2

Candy’s dog

• Meaning = weakness

• Explanation = Candy’s dog is viewed as too old and useless to be allowed to live
SYMBOLS #3

The Boss’s spurs

• Meaning = power

• Explanation = The boss can afford showy, expensive spurs while the ranch hands cannot
SYMBOLS #4

Red Slippers with Ostrich Feathers

- Meaning = sex appeal
- Explanation = The red color and feathers are designed to attract men.
SYMBOLS #5

Curly’s hair (tight curls)

• Meaning = anger

• Explanation = Curly’s hair is as tightly coiled as his temper.
**FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

**Simile** = A direct comparison using like or as

– The hail pounded on the roof like hundreds of hammers.

**Metaphor** = An indirect comparison without using like or as

– A banner of color announced the end of the rain.
“A water snake slipped along on the pool, its head up like a periscope.”

- Figure of Speech = simile
- The comparison is between a snake and periscope or a snake and a submarine
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE #2

“He’s (Lennie’s) just like a little kid, ain’t he.”

- Figure of Speech = simile
- The comparison is between Lennie and a child
George warns Lennie that Curley’s wife is a “rat-trap if I ever seen one.”

- Figure of Speech = metaphor
- The comparison is between Curly’s wife and a rat-trap
“Slim moved with majesty…He was a jerk-line skinner, the prince of the ranch.”

- Figure of Speech = metaphor
- The comparison is between Slim and a prince
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE #5

“The next minute Curley was flopping like a fish on the line…”

• Figure of Speech = simile

• The comparison is between Curly and a fish
CONFLICT

Conflict = A character confronts an opposing force.

- The characters must “fight” for what they want or need
- There are 5 types of conflict.
CONFLICT #1

CHARACTER VS. CHARACTER

- A character or characters face a problem with one or more characters in the story.
  - George vs. Lennie
CONFLICT #2

CHARACTER VS. SELF

- A character faces a physical or emotional struggle
  - George’s desire to tease Lennie vs. his guilt about mistreating Lennie
CONFLICT #3

CHARACTER VS. SOCIETY

- One or more characters face a problem with a part of society (government, laws, traditions, etc.)
  - Lennie vs. the law
CONFLICT #4

CHARACTER VS. NATURE

- One or more characters face a problem with a force of nature.
  - Candy vs. old age and death
CONFLICT #5

CHARACTER VS. FATE

• One or more characters face a problem with a force such as fate, God, or luck

• George vs. life as a hired ranch worker.
LITERARY TERMS #1

• Characters = the individuals in a story or play.

• Characterization = the process by which the writer reveals the personality of a character.

• Climax = the moment of highest dramatic intensity in the story; also known as the turning point.
LITERARY TERMS #2

• Conflict = the central part of the plot; it is the struggle between two opposing forces.

• Foreshadowing = the term for the hints and clues that a writer uses to indicate what might happen later in a story.

• Plot = the series of events that make up a story.
LITERARY TERMS #3

• Point of View = the author’s choice of a narrator; the voice in a story.

• Resolution = the ending of a story or final part of the plot.

• Rising Action = the events of the story that lead up to the climax.
• **Scope** = the element of a novel that allows the writer to expand his use of such elements as characters, themes, plot lines, etc.

• **Setting** = the time and place of a story.
LITERARY TERMS #5

- **Suspense** = the anxiety or excitement a reader feels about what might happen in a story; keeps the reader interested.

- **Theme** = the main idea of a story, the author’s message.
Tomorrow’s Exam [worth 100 points]

1. 14 Matching Questions = Literary Terms
2. 15 True/False Questions = Plot
3. 14 Multiple Choice Questions = Plot
4. 1 Essay Question = [12 total]; your choice
5. 5 Symbolism Questions = Choose an appropriate meaning from word bank and explain your choice
6. 5 Figurative Language Questions = Choose simile or metaphor and explain your choice
7. 5 Conflict Questions = Give an example of each type of conflict