

VOCABULARY - *Of Mice and Men*

Chapter 1 Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. George stared morosely at the water.
2. But Lennie made an elaborate pantomime of innocence.
3. Lennie hesitated, backed away, looked wildly at the brush line as though he contemplated running for his freedom.
4. Lennie reluctantly reached into his pocket.
5. Lennie sat down on the ground and hung his head dejectedly.
6. He took on the elaborate manner of little girls when they are mimicking one another.
7. He looked across the fire at Lennie's anguished face, and then he looked ashamedly at the flames.
8. George gestured with his spoon.

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 1 Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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|---------------------|---|
| ___ 1. morosely | A. showing a feeling of guilt |
| ___ 2. pantomime | B. imitating |
| ___ 3. contemplated | C. unwillingly; hesitantly |
| ___ 4. reluctantly | D. acting that consists mostly of gestures; no words |
| ___ 5. dejectedly | E. made a motion to express thought or emphasize speech |
| ___ 6. mimicking | F. showing an agonizing physical or mental pain |
| ___ 7. anguished | G. considered thoughtfully |
| ___ 8. ashamedly | H. sadly; depressed or disheartened |
| ___ 9. gestured | I. glumly; gloomily |

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 2

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. "I ain't so sure," said George skeptically.
2. "Damn right he don't," said George, slightly mollified, "not if he wants to stay workin' long."
3. He said ominously, "Well, he better watch out for Lennie."
4. He had drawn a derogatory statement from George.
5. "I don't want no trouble," he said plaintively.
6. His face contorted with thought.
7. She was suddenly apprehensive.
8. There was a gravity in his manner and a quiet so profound that all talk stopped when he spoke.
9. Lennie, who had been following the conversation back and forth with his eyes, smiled complacently at the compliment.
10. Carlson stepped back to let Slim precede him, and then the two of them went out the door.

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 2 Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning -- Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 10. skeptically | A. uneasy; anxious |
| ___ 11. mollified | B. in a self-satisfied manner |
| ___ 12. ominously | C. showing doubt or disbelief; questioningly |
| ___ 13. derogatory | D. twisted or strained out of shape |
| ___ 14. plaintively | E. pacified; calmed |
| ___ 15. contorted | F. complete; coming from the depth of one's being |
| ___ 16. apprehensive | G. detracting or disparaging |
| ___ 17. profound | H. mournfully; sorrowfully |
| ___ 18. complacently | I. go before |
| ___ 19. precede | J. with foreboding |

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 3

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. He reached down and picked the tiny puppy from where Lennie had been concealing it against his stomach.
2. Slim gazed at him for a moment and then looked down at his hands; he subdued one hand with the other, and held it down.
3. Whit laid down his cards impressively.
4. He subsided, grumbling to himself, threatening the future cats which might dare to disturb future rabbits.
5. George sat entranced with his own picture.
6. When Candy spoke they both jumped as though they had been caught doing something reprehensible.
7. They all sat still, all bemused by the beauty of the thing, each mind was popped into the future when this lovely thing should come about.

Part II: Determining the Meaning Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 20. concealing | A. fascinated |
| ___ 21. subdued | B. put into deep thought |
| ___ 22. impressively | C. settled down |
| ___ 23. subsided | D. to quiet or bring under control by physical force |
| ___ 24. entranced | E. worthy of blame; deserving censure |
| ___ 25. reprehensible | F. hiding |
| ___ 26. bemused | G. commanding attention; making a strong impression |

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 4

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. And he had books, too; a tattered dictionary and a mauled copy of the California civil code for 1905.
2. In the stable buck's room a small electric globe threw a meager yellow light.
3. Crooks scowled, but Lennie's disarming smile defeated him.
4. His voice grew soft and persuasive.
5. She paused and her face lost its sullenness and grew interested.
6. "Awright," she said contemptuously.
7. She was breathless with indignation.
8. She appraised him coolly.

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 4 Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 27. mauled | A. gloominess |
| ___ 28. meager | B. handled roughly; beaten up |
| ___ 29. disarming | C. an anger aroused by something unjust, mean
or unworthy |
| ___ 30. persuasive | D. evaluated |
| ___ 31. sullenness | E. convincing |
| ___ 32. contemptuously | F. deficient in quantity; scant |
| ___ 33. indignation | G. endearing, tending to remove hostility or
suspicion |
| ___ 34. appraised | H. with a feeling of contempt; scornfully |

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 5

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. She consoled him. "Don't you worry none. He was jus' a mutt. You can get another one easy."
2. And because she had confided in him, she moved closer to Lennie and sat beside him.
3. Her feet battered on the hay and she writhed to be free; and from under Lennie's hand came a muffled screaming.
4. For a moment he seemed bewildered.
5. "Then--it's all off?" Candy said sulkily.
6. He sniveled, and his voice shook.

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. If there are words for which you cannot figure out the definition by contextual clues and by process of elimination, look them up in a dictionary.

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| ___ 35. consoled | A. twisted |
| ___ 36. confided | B. comforted |
| ___ 37. writhed | C. confused; befuddled |
| ___ 38. bewildered | D. gloomily |
| ___ 39. sulkily | E. told private matters not intended for public knowledge |
| ___ 40. sniveled | F. cried or wept with sniffing |

Vocabulary - *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 6

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean.

1. Now Lennie retorted belligerently, "He ain't neither."

2. His voice was monotonous, had no emphasis.

3. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering.

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. If there are words for which you cannot figure out the definition by contextual clues and by process of elimination, look them up in a dictionary.

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| ___ 41. retorted | A. trembling |
| ___ 42. belligerently | B. replied sharply |
| ___ 43. monotonous | C. hostilely; aggressively |
| ___ 44. quivering | D. unvarying the vocal tone or pitch |