

### *Of Mice and Men* Chapter 3 (38-65)

1. Why did Carlson take Candy's dog?
2. What is the foreshadowing mentioned about Curley's wife?
3. What was White trying to get George to do with the guys?
4. Why was Curley worried about where Slim was?
5. Who overheard George and Lennie talking about their dream? What did they decide to do together?
6. Why did Curley turn to Lennie and start picking on him?
7. Describe the fight between Curley and Lennie.
8. What did Slim mean when he told Curley, "I think you got your hand' caught in a machine."?

#### **ANSWER IN YOUR JOURNAL (Chapter 3, Part 1, pages 38-50)**

- A. *Exposition*:** List five *key details* that provide background to the characters and the plot up to this point. Explain why each detail is so important to the story.
- B. *Rising Action*:** List and describe the events in Chapter Three that increase the tension in the story and will lead to the climax. In a short paragraph, identify the events and explain *how* they affect the plot.
- C. *Characterize*:** Everyone respects Slim, especially Candy (p. 45) for whom "Slim's opinions were law." Write down a few reasons why people respect someone. Who is someone *you* respect, someone whose opinions are law? Explain *why* everyone respects Slim and how Slim is similar to or different from this person you respect so much.
- D. *Infer*:** Steinbeck includes a lot of animals in the story, including mice, rabbits, and dogs. Think about these animals and their relationship to the humans. What do you think Steinbeck is trying to say by using these animals? Why do you think that? Provide evidence to support your argument.
- E. *Mood*:** On pages 48–49, Steinbeck refers to "silence" repeatedly. What is the cause and meaning of the *silence*? Note that he personifies silence. Find some examples in which he personifies silence and explain how this technique affects the mood.

#### **ANSWER IN YOUR JOURNAL (Chapter 3, Part 2, pages 50-65)**

- A. *Climax*:** Which event in Chapter Three seems like it will be the climax of the story? Explain why you think that.
- B. *Theme*:** On pages 56–59, Lennie speaks eagerly and repeatedly about "live on the fatta the lan'" (which means "live on the fat of the land") when he thinks about the farm he and George will own one day. What does this place represent for George and Lennie? Explain why you think this, using examples and quotations to support your thinking.
- C. *Connect*:** Describe a place you already know or wish you had where you could escape all the troubles of the world. Be very specific in your details. *Paint* this place with words!
- D. *Respond*:** John Steinbeck said, "In every bit of honest writing in the world there is a base theme: Try to understand men; if you understand each other you will be kind to each other. Knowing a man well never leads to hate and nearly always leads to love." Explain what you think this quotation means and how it relates to the novel and your own experience.
- E. *Predict*:** You are roughly halfway through the novel. Based on what you know at this point, what do you think will happen in the remainder of the story? What do you base your prediction on?