

*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter One

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

Step One: 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 on the LEFT side of the / .

Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. George stared morosely at the water. (pg. 4)

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

2. But Lennie made an elaborate pantomime of innocence. (pg. 8)

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3. Lennie hesitated, backed away, looked wildly at the brush line as though he contemplated running for his freedom. (pg. 8)

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4. Lennie reluctantly reached into his pocket. (pg. 9)

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5. Lennie sat down on the ground and hung his head dejectedly. (pg. 9)

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6. He took on the elaborate manner of little girls when they are mimicking one another. (pg. 9)

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7. He looked across the fire at Lennie's anguished face, and then he looked ashamedly at the flames. (pg. 11)

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8. George gestured with his spoon. (pg. 15)

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*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter Two

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

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Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. "I ain't so sure," said George skeptically. (pg.19)

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2. "Damn right he don't," said George, slightly mollified, "not if he wants to stay workin' long." (pg. 24)

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3. He said ominously, "Well, he better watch out for Lennie." (pg. 27)

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4. He had drawn a derogatory statement from George. (pg. 27)

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5. "I don't want no trouble," he said plaintively. (pg. 29)

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6. His face contorted with thought. (pg. 30)

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7. She was suddenly apprehensive. (pg. 32)

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8. There was a gravity in his manner and a quiet so profound that all talk stopped when he spoke. (pg. 33)

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9. Lennie, who had been following the conversation back and forth with his eyes, smiled complacently at the compliment. (pg. 34)

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10. Carlson stepped back to let Slim precede him, and then the two of them went out the door. (pg. 36)

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*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter Three

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

Step One: 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 on the LEFT side of the / .

Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. He reached down and picked the tiny puppy from where Lennie had been concealing it against his stomach. (pg. 43)

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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. (pg. 49)

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3. Whit laid down his cards impressively. (pg. 51)

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4. He subsided, grumbling to himself, threatening the future cats which might dare to disturb future rabbits. (pg. 58)

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5. George sat entranced with his own picture. (pg. 58)

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6. When Candy spoke they both jumped at though they had been caught doing something reprehensible. (pg. 59)

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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. (pg. 60)

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*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter Four

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

Step One: 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 on the LEFT side of the / .

Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. And he had books, too; a tattered dictionary and a mauled copy of the California civil code for 1905. (pg. 67)

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2. In the stable buck's room a small electric globe threw a meager yellow light. (pg. 67)

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3. Crooks scowled, but Lennie's disarming smile defeated him. (pg. 69)

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4. His voice grew soft and persuasive. (pg 71)

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5. She paused and her face lost its sullenness and grew interested. (pg. 78)

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6. "Awright," she said contemptuously. (pg. 78)

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7. She was breathless with indignation. (pg. 78)

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8. She appraised him coolly. (pg. 81)

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*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter Five

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

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Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. She consoled him. "Don't you worry none. He was js'a mutt. You can get another one easy." (pg. 87)

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2. And because she had confided in him, she moved closer to Lennie and sat beside him. (pg.89)

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3. Her feet battered on the hay and she writhed to be free; and from under Lennie's hand came a muffled screaming. (pg. 91)

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4. For a moment he seemed bewildered. (pg. 91)

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5. "Then—it's all off?" Candy said sulkily. (pg. 95)

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6. He sniveled, and his voice shook. (pg. 95)

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*Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary  
Chapter Six

**Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues**

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Step Two: Look up the definition of each word and write the dictionary definition of each word on the RIGHT side of the / .

1. Now Lennie retorted belligerently, “He ain’t neither.” (pg. 102)

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\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

2. His voice was monotonous, had no emphasis. (pg. 103)

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3. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering. (pg. 106)

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