



Willow Hill School Summer 2018

9th and 10th Grade ELA Summer Reading List and Assignments

Welcome to the first assignment for your 9th & 10th grade American Literature and Composition classes! Your summer reading will help you arrive prepared and ready to jump into discussion on the first day of school. It will also give your teacher an idea of your reading and writing skills so you can make this a productive and successful year.

These assignments will be part of your first quarter grade and will be due the first day of school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact ccole@willowhillschool.org.

****All students will be asked to read two books this summer (one assigned and one free choice).***

ASSIGNED (1):

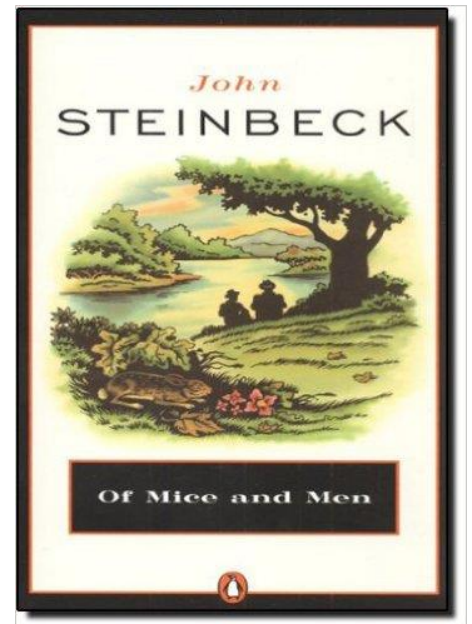
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

audiobook can be found at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yA3oqBr9o9Y>



FREE CHOICE (1):

One book of your choice, which must be at least 150 pages in length.



****Please see pages 2-3 for specific details about your summer reading assignments...***

Of Mice and Men Assignment (9th and 10th grade):

All responses should be typed in size 12 Times New Roman font, double spaced. Please create a heading in the top left corner of the page with your name, class (ELA), date, and assignment title.

I. CHAPTER QUESTIONS: Answer each of the following questions using at least 3 complete sentences.

chapter 1-2

- 1) How are both George and Lennie first described?
- 2) What happened at the last place where Lennie and George worked?
- 3) Describe the dream George and Lennie share for their future. Why is it so important to both men?
- 4) Describe Curley, his wife, and Slim.
- 5) What is Lennie excitedly talking about toward the end of chapter 2?

chapter 3-4

- 6) What are Carlson's reasons for shooting Candy's dog? What are Candy's reasons for not shooting the dog?
- 7) What does the fight between Lennie and Curley show about their personalities?
- 8) Why doesn't George help Lennie in the fight?
- 9) In chapter 4, what does Crooks say to Lennie about loneliness?
- 10) Why does Crooks torture and taunt Lennie about George?

chapter 5-6

- 11) How have Curley's wife's dreams for her life changed or been lost?
- 12) What happens to Curley's wife? Why?
- 13) What does George do to Lennie? Why?
- 14) Explain what happens to the dream at the end of the novel for both Lennie and George.
- 15) In what way does Slim show understanding for George's decision? Why does Carlson ask the last question?

II. PERSONAL RESPONSE: Answer the following question in at least two paragraphs (5-7 detailed sentences per paragraph).

- 16) In *Of Mice and Men*, was George killing Lennie morally right, or was it wrong? Support your opinion with 2 strong reasons, and evidence from the text.

Free Choice Book Assignment (10th grade only):

All responses should be typed in size 12 Times New Roman font, double spaced. Please create a heading in the top left corner of the page with your name, class (ELA), date, and assignment title.

I. QUOTATIONS: Pick 2 important quotations that stood out to you from your free choice book. Then, answer part a, b and c for each quotation. For each:

- a. Explain who said the quote (1 sentence).
- b. Describe who the character is in the book (1-2 sentences).
- c. Explain what the quote means and why it is important to the novel as a whole (2-4 sentences).

II. OPEN RESPONSE QUESTIONs (ORQs): Answer the question in paragraph form (5-7 sentences per paragraph). Check your capitalization, organization, punctuation, and spelling (C.O.P.S.) carefully!

- 1) In 2 paragraphs, summarize your free choice book. Be sure to include major plot points, characters, conflicts, and the ending.
- 2) Which character in your free choice book changed the most throughout the story? Who is this character, and how did he or she change? Why did this change take place?

III. PERSONAL RESPONSE: Answer the following question in at least two paragraphs (5-7 detailed sentences per paragraph).

- 3) If you were an English teacher, would you choose to teach your free choice book to your classes? Why or why not? If yes—what could your class learn from the message this text sends? If no—what book might you teach instead? Why?