

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

### John Steinbeck/*Of Mice and Men* Web Quest

#### A. Steinbeck's Biography:

[http://as.sjsu.edu/steinbeck/biography/index.jsp?val=biography\\_biography\\_in\\_depth](http://as.sjsu.edu/steinbeck/biography/index.jsp?val=biography_biography_in_depth)

1. In what town and state was Steinbeck born? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What nickname was given to "Salinas Valley?" \_\_\_\_\_

3. As a teen, what did Steinbeck define himself against? How did he go about doing this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Explain the emotional gains Steinbeck acquired by working closely with migrants and bindle stiffs in California.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. In what year was *Of Mice and Men* written? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What was the "working title for *Of Mice and Men*?" \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did this "working title" serve as a good example of his non-teleological" perspective?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[http://as.sjsu.edu/steinbeck/biography/index.jsp?val=biography\\_pegasus](http://as.sjsu.edu/steinbeck/biography/index.jsp?val=biography_pegasus)

8. Explain how John Steinbeck used Pegasus as a symbol of himself. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. According to Elaine Steinbeck in her letter, why wouldn't John have ever used the winged horse, Pegasus? \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. *Of Mice and Men*:

<http://www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us/mice.html>

10. Where is the story set? \_\_\_\_\_ In what year? \_\_\_\_\_  
Give three specific setting locations: \_\_\_\_\_

***Of Mice and Men* Characters:** Read each character depiction, and write the name of the character being described on the line. Include first and last names when applicable. Characters may be used more than once.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Travels with and is cared for by George.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 12. Sharp - witted ranch hand who travels with Lennie.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 13. The ranch hand who wants to join George and Lennie's dream.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 14. A wise, well - respected ranch hand whose word is law.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Named for his crooked back; proud and independent Negro.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 16. Small, vicious bully who picks on those smaller than he is.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Has a mean streak and is a vehicle for spreading evil.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 18. Coarse and insensitive; does not understand other's feelings.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19. Because of his mental limitations, acts similar to a child.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 20. The evil son of the boss.

21-25. List the five relevant themes for the novel, *Of Mice and Men*. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C. *Of Mice and Men* is a Banned Book:**

<http://www.helium.com/items/1137139-why-is-of-mice-and-men-often-placed-on-banned-book-lists>

26. *Of Mice and Men* tells the story of two migrant workers, one with a body too strong for his \_\_\_\_\_, and one with responsibilities nearly too great for his \_\_\_\_\_.

27. List three reasons why the book has been banned: \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Origin of *Of Mice and Men* title:**

<http://www.rbwf.org.uk/poems/translations/554.htm>

28. Read the paragraph summary at the top of this web page. How did Robert Burns earn most of his money? \_\_\_\_\_

29. Explain the circumstance that led Burns to the topic of this poem. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

30. Write the translation of the most quoted lines from the poem: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

31. Read the second stanza of this poem and analyze/explain what the farmer is apologizing to the mouse about. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**E. Famous *Of Mice and Men* Quotes:** Locate the quotes on this page and fill in the missing words.

[http://classiclit.about.com/od/ofmiceandmensteinbeck/a/aa\\_ofmicequotes.htm](http://classiclit.about.com/od/ofmiceandmensteinbeck/a/aa_ofmicequotes.htm)

32. Guys like us, that work on \_\_\_\_\_, are the \_\_\_\_\_ guys in the world. They got no family. They don't belong no place. . . . With us it ain't like that. We got a \_\_\_\_\_ . We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us.

33. "We could live offa \_\_\_\_\_."

34. "I seen hunderds of men come by on the road an' on the \_\_\_\_\_, with their \_\_\_\_\_ on their back an' that same damn thing in their heads. Hunderds of them..

**Please turn this in when you are finished. Work on your notebook check items.**

