

## **John Steinbeck's "The Harvest Gypsies" CRQ**

### **Article 1- October 5, 1936**

1. How many homeless migrants does Steinbeck say are wandering up and down the state of California?
2. What reasons does Steinbeck give for the general hatred of the migrant workers?
3. From which drought states have the newest groups of migrants come from?
4. List some of the ways these American migrants differ from the foreigners of the past.

### **Article II- October 6, 1936**

5. Which families have it best in the squatter's camp?
6. How much is a farmer likely to make if he hits every harvest and works the maximum time? What if something happens?
7. What is the "expression on every face"?
8. What is causing the death of children in the camp?
9. How are the migrant children treated in school?
10. What help are the families in the camp getting from the outside?

### **Article III- October 7, 1936**

11. How do large farms and small farms differ with regards to the migrant workers?
12. How much might a migrant worker pay a month to rent a house on one of the ranches? How do the ranchers ensure the rent is paid?
13. Describe the living conditions of the "three to five dollar houses forced on the laborers".
14. How is the migrant worker "continually in debt" at one of these ranches?
15. What is a "pusher"?
16. Why do the large ranch owners not want the workers to "organize" together? What would they lose if they allowed this to happen?

### **Article IV- October 8, 1936**

17. What are the conditions that a camper has to agree to in order to obtain a place at the government-run camps at Arvin and Marysville?
18. What are the responsibilities of the four committees of the government-run camps (central governing committee, entertainment committee, works/maintenance committee, and the Good Neighbors committee)?
19. How many families was each camp equipped to accommodate?
20. What are the four arguments against these types of camps?

### **Article V- October 9, 1936**

- 21. What does the migrant worker need to receive government aid? Why is this a problem?
- 22. What is the major part of the diet for migrant workers? What must they live off of when there is no money coming in?
- 23. Why is the infant mortality rate so high among migrant families?

### **Article VI- October 10, 1936**

- 24. Who were the first imported workers in California, and what were they brought in to do?
- 25. Why (at the time of this article) are Mexican laborers being pushed out of California?
- 26. How did the Filipino workers fare better than other workers?

### **Article VII- October 12, 1936**

- 27. List some of the suggestions that Steinbeck offers to help solve the problem of the migrants.