

**JOHN STEINBECK'S  
OF MICE AND MEN**

## John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*

**PART ONE.** Make a circle around the item (a, b, c, or d) which best completes each unfinished sentence.

1. *Of Mice and Men* deals with ....., in California.
  - a) agricultural labor
  - b) industrial labor
  - c) gold- seeking
  - d) strikes
  
2. The workers in *Of Mice and Men* have not yet reached social awareness or class consciousness: they accept their lot, spend their small earnings, never .....

  - a) ask for more money
  - b) question the structure of society
  - c) hope to have better lives
  - d) work for more than eight hours a day

  
3. These migratory pickers work on a large grain-producing farm managed solely by its owners, who hires hands \_\_\_\_ a month and found.
  - a) at forty dollars
  - b) at thirty dollars
  - c) at fifty dollars
  - d) at sixty dollars
  
4. George and Lennie, sent by . . . . . came to the ranch. Both of them hoped to earn enough money to buy a piece of land.
  - a) the government
  - b) their own choice
  - c) their employers
  - d) an employment agency
  
5. Lennie was huge and powerful. He was a good worker, but .....

- a) was lazy some of the time
  - b) hated to work alone
  - c) was reluctant to come to work here
  - d) mentally retarded
6. Lennie went everywhere with George, who had promised....., now dead, to look after him.
- a) Lennie's Aunt Pauline
  - b) Lennie's Aunt Clara
  - c) Lennie's Aunt **Nora**
  - d) George's Aunt Betty
7. ....to George, he would do anything that George asked him to do. He respected George highly.
- a) Dependent
  - b) Attached
  - c) Devoted
  - d) Brother
8. Lennie had a passion for . . . . like mice and rabbits, but so great was his strength that when he stroked them, he was bound to kill them.
- a) all kinds of animals
  - b) all kinds of pets
  - c) all kinds of rodents
  - d) furry animals
9. Lennie also liked ..... and pretty dresses; and whatever he liked, he wanted to touch and pet.
- a) prostitutes
  - b) pretty women
  - c) women's soft hair
  - d) women with long hair
10. In Weed, just before the story begins, attracted by . . . . Lennie and put his hand on the garment. The girl, misunderstanding his intention, began to scream and her cries frightened him.

- a) a girl's red dress
- b) a girl's short dress
- c) a girl's ring
- d) None of these

11. **Of Mice and Men** is a folk tragedy laid in the setting of..... .
- a) a California ranch.
  - b) a Mississippi plantation.
  - c) a New York slum.
  - d) a Boston aristocratic area.
12. George Milton, an impractical but intelligent and hard-working labor, and Lennie Small, his strong,....., and gentle companion came to the ranch.
- a) intellectual
  - b) half-witted
  - c) ingenious
  - d) imaginative
13. Both George and Lennie have formed a sort of . . . . . George protects Lennie from the ....., of a clever and unscrupulous society, and Lennie puts his enormous strength at George's disposal.
- a) sincere relationship ; success
  - b) good partnership; hypocrisy
  - c) tacit partnership; pitfalls
  - d) good companionship; downfall
14. George and Lennie meet Candy ,..... who has managed to save a few dollars through the years, and the three enter into a sentimental partnership to retire at the end.
- a) a wicked old man
  - b) a man with iron will
  - c) a blind old man
  - d) a decrepit old man
15. George, Lennie, and Candy intend to save some money in order to buy..... after retirement and think that they will be happy then.

- a) a tractor
  - b) a piece of land
  - c) a pair of horses
  - d) a villa not very far from the town
16. To fulfill the purpose of a dream, Candy is to furnish the money, George ..... and Lennie the brute strength.
- a) works hard
  - b) marries a rich girl
  - c) the brains
  - d) robs the farms
17. As their..... occupies their entire attention, three of them can talk of nothing else.
- a) hallucination
  - b) poverty
  - c) weakness
  - d) dream
18. The . .... is comparable to a kind of drug or hope which makes their hard life bearable.
- a) dream
  - b) hallucination
  - c) nightmare
  - d) poverty
19. It is possibly justified to say that it is ..... who causes the dream vanish.
- a) George
  - b) Lennie
  - c) Candy
  - d) Tom
20. At the time, Curley, the conceited young ranch owner's son, has married a..... who is a continual source of trouble on the ranch.
- a) common woman
  - b) sexy whore
  - c) flirtatious young woman
  - d) silent and sophisticated woman

21. Curley's wife, bored, dabbled with Lennie; she is fascinated by ....., and tries her seductive tricks on him most of the time.
- a) his stupidity
  - b) his strength
  - c) his cleverness
  - d) his big body
22. Lennie who is unaware of his own strength, still bewildered, ..... her like an egg without knowing what he is doing.
- a) embraces
  - b) crushes
  - c) kisses
  - d) stirs
23. When he is aware that he has done something wrong, and afraid . . . . . he stumbles away in flight.
- a) he is going to be hunted by police
  - b) Candy won't give him any share in the land
  - c) Curley will send him to the court
  - d) George will punish him
24. George, however, tracks him down and finds Lennie before the posse reaches him, and kills him with a revolver as he lulls him with tales of their . . . . .
- a) sweet past
  - b) dream ranch
  - c) old times
  - d) wives
25. It is possible to say that John Steinbeck shows in the novel his sympathy for those who .....
- a) have little.
  - b) have a lot of wealth.
  - c) are born rich.
  - d) are born stupid.

26. George, an itinerant worker, does not ask for much but just a little piece of . . . . . which would spell security for himself and his friend.
- a) bread
  - b) land
  - c) food
  - d) loaf of bread
27. George has Lennie, a morron, both as his friend as well as a person under his . . . . .
- a) guide
  - b) decision
  - c) power
  - d) protection
28. Lennie is huge in size and has enormous strength but he has . . . . .
- a) thorough decision
  - b) no judgment
  - c) precaution
  - d) shallow desire
29. George supervises Lennie and gives him something to work for — a farm where Lennie can raise . . . . .
- a) rabbits
  - b) cows
  - c) horses
  - d) chickens which he loves a lot
30. Lennie, not realizing what he is doing, commits . . . . .
- a) a murder
  - b) adultery
  - c) crime
  - d) sin
31. George finds Lennie, after running away from the scene of murder, and in mercy while lulling him with talk of the farm, . . . . .
- a) pulls him to his arms
  - b) shoots him
  - c) pushes him over the cliff
  - d) clubs him dead

32. The workers in the story have not yet reached . . . . . or class consciousness because they accept their lot, spend their small earnings, never question the structure of society.
- a) social awareness
  - b) any dream
  - c) any hope
  - d) any success
33. The owners of each land hire the men to work on a large grain-producing farm at .....
- a) ten dollars a month
  - b) fifteen dollars a month
  - c) fifty dollars a month
  - d) one hundred dollars a month
34. By and large, these migrants go from place to place of .....
- a) their own choice
  - b) by pressure
  - c) by instinct
  - d) by custom
35. The running away from Weed is an episode of the latest series of incidents in which Lennie had innocently .....
- a) been secure
  - b) caused trouble
  - c) committed adultery
  - d) been saved from the risk
36. As a whole, George and Lennie were not migratory ..... at any rate, they talked about settling down.
- a) by birth
  - b) by pressure
  - c) from social restraint
  - d) from choice
37. Both George and Lennie shared . . . . . of owning a little farm of their own.



- a) a dream of independence
  - b) a dream of gaining wealth
  - c) a wish to attain their ends
  - d) a wish to possess a big ranch
38. George, of course, had invented the content of . . . . . and Lennie loved to hear him tell about what they could have on the farm.
- a) the will
  - b) the dream
  - c) the document
  - d) the destiny
39. George promised Lennie that he would let Lennie tend ..... provided Lennie kept out of trouble.
- a) rabbits
  - b) cows
  - c) horses
  - d) chickens
40. George's recitation of the dream had become a . . . . . which Lennie wanted repeated many times.
- a) talisman
  - b) good omen,
  - c) ritual
  - d) ceremony
41. Both George and Lennie were never able to save money, and the dream remained a dream until they reached the ranch near . . . . .
- a) Cobra Point
  - b) Black Eagle
  - c) a haunted house
  - d) Soledad
42. At the ranch, both George and Lennie met Candy, . . . . . who overheard George's recitation and became interested.
- a) an old handy man
  - b) an old sick man

- c) a rich old man
  - d) a wealthy good young man
43. Candy learned that George had a real ten-acre place in mind and could buy it for .....
- a) \$200
  - b) \$400
  - c) \$ 600
  - d) \$ 800
44. Candy was interested in sharing the dream because he had . .... in savings and would have another fifty at the end of the month.
- a) \$ 100
  - b) \$ 300
  - c) \$ 500
  - d) \$ 700
45. As George and Lennie would have a hundred at the end of a month's work, the dream of ..... had suddenly become possible.
- a) buying a piece of land
  - b) buying a new house
  - c) buying a ranch
  - d) doing back to the east
46. The idea of three men's was on Friday evening. but on Sunday the plan was shattered: ....., the boss's daughter-in-law.
- a) George had killed Curley's wife
  - b) Candy had killed Curley's wife
  - c) Lennie had killed Curley's wife
  - d) Lennie had committed adultery with Curley's wife
47. Curley's wife was tawdry, rather stupid young woman, interested only in..... .
- a) fashion
  - b) etiquettes
  - c) money
  - d) attracting men

48. On first seeing Curley's wife, George said, "..... ." After two weeks of marriage she hated her husband.
- a) I love you
  - b) She ran away
  - c) We got married
  - d) None of these
49. Curley's wife became interested in Lennie because he . . . . .
- a) hated to do any kind of work
  - b) had crushed her husband's hand
  - c) asked to sleep with her
  - d) was not only strong but clever as well
50. On Sunday afternoon Curley's wife found Lennie alone in the barn and easily enticed him . . . . .
- a) to kiss her
  - b) to steal her husband's money
  - c) into stroking her hair
  - d) into kissing her and sleeping with her
51. When Lennie started to touch Curley's wife's hair, he could not stop. She became frightened and started to scream Lennie, frightened in turn. .... .
- a) let her go free
  - b) hit her on the head
  - c) shouted at her
  - d) broke her neck
52. Then Lennie ran to the thicket of willows and sycamores by .... where George had told him to hide if he got into trouble.
- a) the barn
  - b) the foot of the mountain
  - c) the river
  - d) Curley's house
53. George came soon, and as he sat behind Lennie, entertaining him once more with a recital of the dream, he shot Lennie with a fellow-worker's pistol at . . . . .

- a) the chest
  - b) the abdomen
  - c) at the base of the brain
  - d) the car
54. As a matter of fact, the final scene between Lennie and George was foreshadowed by an episode in which Candy lost his aged, evil-smelling ....
- a) goat
  - b) sheep
  - c) dog
  - d) cow
55. Carlson, the owner of the pistol, had persuaded the reluctant Candy to let him shoot .....
- a) the ailing dog
  - b) the ailing goat
  - c) the fierce dog
  - d) the mad dog
56. As Carlson pointed to a spot at the back of the dog's head, he said, "The way I'd shoot him, he . . . . ."
- a) would become mad
  - b) would feel painful
  - c) would bleed a lot
  - d) wouldn't feel nothing
57. The dog was Candy's only friend, the only creature that he could feel much affection for or that felt much for him: but the dog..... to Candy's bunkhouse mates and had to go.
- a) was dangerous
  - b) was a nuisance
  - c) became quite mad
  - d) became dangerous and risky
58. Afterwards, Candy said to George, "I . . . . . George. I shouldn't ought to let no stranger shoot my dog."

- a) I should take him away
  - b) I should keep him in the room
  - c) I ought to shoot that dog myself
  - d) I ought to give him to Lennie
59. So when Lennie to be killed, . . . . . to save him from Curley's shotgun.
- a) Lennie had to run away
  - b) Lennie had to go back to Weeds
  - c) George intended to kill Curley, too
  - d) George shot Lennie himself
60. This story is like a . . . . . of Sophocles or Ibsen in its dramatic economy: every word is meaningful in relation to the whole; few characters are used; and prophetic speeches, symbolic properties, and foreshadowing episodes point to the inevitable end.
- a) romance
  - b) tragedy
  - c) comedy
  - d) lyric
61. . . . ., a favorite Steinbeck theme, appearing in some form in nearly every novel, is in the story expressed in the farm-hand's and bindle-stiff's desire for a few acres of his own, so that he can be his own boss.
- a) Man's longing for the land
  - b) Social conflict
  - c) Capitalism
  - d) Sexual frustration
62. . . . . said, "I'd have my own little place, an' I'd be bringin' in my own crops, 'stead of doin' all the work and not getting what comes up outa the ground."
- a) George
  - b) Lennie
  - c) Candy
  - d) Carlson

63. \_\_\_\_\_ said. "Everybody wants a little bit of land, not much. Jus' som' thin' that was his. Som' thin' he could live on and there couldn't nobody throw him off of it. I never had none. I planted crops for damn near ever'body in this state, but they was my crops, and when I harvested 'em, it wasn't none of my harvest."
- a) George
  - b) Lennie
  - c) Candy
  - d) Crooks
64. In **Of Mice and Men**, Steinbeck seems to report a mode in which the ..... is really expressed by men whose chances of acquiring land are well-nigh hopeless.
- a) anger
  - b) hatred
  - c) unrest
  - d) yearning
65. When Crooks saw that Candy and Lennie had a real proposition, backed by real money, he offered to work for them for nothing, just .....,
- a) to live with them
  - b) to ask for three meals a day
  - c) to share independence
  - d) to share the crops
66. By and large, the land hunger of impoverished farm workers: a dream of independence, usually remains a dream; and when it becomes a real plan, the plan .....
- a) becomes true
  - b) turns absurd
  - c) is defeated
  - d) is complex
67. .... said, "I seen hundreds of men come by on the road on the ranches, with their bindles on their hack an' that same damn thing in their heads. Hundreds of them. They come, an' they quit an' go on; an' every damn one of 'em's got a little piece of it in his

head. An' never a- God damn one of 'em ever gets it. Just like heaven. . . Nobody never gets to heaven, and nobody gets no land. It's just in their **head.**"

- a) Crooks
  - b) Candy
  - c) Carlson
  - d) George
68. For George and Lennie, being who they are and where they are, the outcome may be inevitable, and the reader may see a \_\_\_\_\_ in the story.
- a) victory
  - b) hypocrisy
  - c) personal tragedy
  - d) personal success
69. It is possible to say that Steinbeck wrote this novel in order to mean the story to be a parable of .....
- a) the human condition
  - b) the life and death
  - c) the tremendous loss
  - d) the lost child
70. According to the story, Steinbeck made it plain that this story was meant to express the inevitable defeat and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- a) the vanity of human wishes
  - b) futility of all men's plans
  - c) success of human wishes
  - d) isolationism
71. The tragic story of George and Lennie cannot carry the load 'of cosmic pessimism placed upon it. It tells us only that it is hard for bindlestiffs to buy land, and that even when they get the money they .....
- a) are sure to possess the land
  - b) can do anything they long for

- c) can go to town and enjoy the civilization
  - d) cannot be sure of making the purchase
72. Objectively considered, the prospects for success . . . . . who would surely have killed every rabbit on the place.
- a) were worse without Lennie
  - b) were promising with Candy
  - c) were more real without Lennie and Candy
  - d) were better without Lennie
73. It seemed logical to say that without Lennie the plan had no meaning for George. The sweeping pessimistic thesis is thus imposed upon the story and obscures its true meaning: that our pleasures often ..... .
- a) oppose and thwart our schemes
  - b) are too high
  - c) are shallow and vague
  - d) bring us happiness
74. After shooting Lennie, an act that the others assumed he had done ..... George went off with Slim to get a drink.
- a) in self-defense
  - b) to save Lennie's life
  - c) to help Curley
  - d) through his great anger
75. By killing Lennie, George turned to his counter-dream of independence: ..... .
- a) freedom from Lennie
  - b) freedom from Curley
  - c) freedom from the owners of the -ranch
  - d) freedom from chaos
76. The dream, as well as the other. .... recited in both the opening and closing scenes among the willows by the river: "God almighty, if I was alone I could live so easy. I could go get a job an' work, an' no trouble. No mess at all, and when the end of the month come I



could take my fifty bucks and go into town and get whatever I want. Why, I could stay in a cat house all night.”

- a) George
- b) Lennie
- c) Crooks
- d) Candy

77. It is a ..... that Lennie often heard. At the end of the contrite Lennie expected to hear it again and urged George to say it.

- a) recital
- b) memorandum
- c) story
- d) wonderful epic

78. The dreams and pleasures of Steinbeck's statement are both ..... and contrasting terms.

- a) common
- b) elaborate
- c) synonymous
- d) monotonous

79. As Crooks enjoys cards, whisky, and women, his pleasures take his little money and he never begins to realize .....

- a) the dream
- b) the ranch
- c) the friendship
- d) humanities

80. Objectively considered, George was split between \_\_\_\_\_ for Lennie, who was company, someone to control and look after, and a desire to be free of an inconvenient burden.

- a) hypocrisy
- b) hatred
- c) genuine affection
- d) revenge

.....

- PART TWO. Write T for True in front of each sentence below which is true according to the story. Write F for False in front of each sentence if it is not true.
- .....1. When George shot Lennie he was not only saving Lennie from Curley's cruelty, but was also making a choice between dreams : events had forced him to a decision.
  - .....2. At one point George said, "I'll work my month an' I'll take my fifty bucks an' I sray all night in some losy cat house.
  - .....3. Of Mice and Men has no recognizable mythical pattern.
  - .....4. In Of Mice and Men, the central image is the earthly paradise.
  - .....5. The story is part of the American dream, finding expression in such nineteenth- century visions as "the garden of rhe west" and "the garden of the world."
  - .....6. This novel ignores the group organism, unless we say that Lennie, representing "the inarticulate and powerful yearning of all men. symbolizes it.
  - .....7. Like rhe group. George has an elementary mentality, lacks initiative and originality, and can follow but not lead.
  - .....8. The association of George and Lennie, leader and follower, is held together by a religion, complete with myth, ritual and litany.
  - .....9. When Lennie makes his formulaic recitation, George responds at the right place with "But not us! An' why? Because \_\_\_ because I got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you., and that's why."
  - .....10. George's freedom from Lennie, is the individual's desire for caret ree enjoyment of pleasures is the serpent in the garden.
  - .....11. Most of the story rock place a few miles south of Soledad, where the Salinas River flows.

- ..... 12. Of all animals, George likes the rabbits most; Lennie does not like any kind of animal.
- ..... 13. George was small and quick. dark of face. with restless eyes and sharp strong features.
- ..... 14. Lennie was a huge man, shapeless of face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little.
- ..... 15. When Lennie saw the river, he ran to it and drank a lot while ~~George~~ was afraid of poisonous water.
- ..... 16. Both George and Lennie ran away from Weed, and came to this place on foot.
- ..... 17. When Lennie found that George kept a dead mouse, he asked for it. With anger he threw the dead mouse away.
- ..... 18. George asked Lennie to get some firewoods, while he was preparing the food.
- ..... 19. It is justifiable to say that Of **Mice and Men** deals with agricultural labour in California
- ..... 20. Lennie likes all kinds of animals. especially furry ones.
- ..... 21. Lennie has an aunt named Clara who asked George to look after Lennie.
- ..... 22. As Aunt Clara was afraid that Lennie would kill animals. she gave him a rubber mouse.
- ..... 23. No sooner had Lennie had any, kind of animal. he killed it without intention.
- ..... 24. Lennie is the one who often causes trouble. He is not completely stupid because he knows that George cannot live happily without him.
- ..... 25. As George and Lennie reached the ranch late, the owner or the boss of the ranch blamed them.

- .....26. Both Lennie and Candy's dog have one thing in common: pale eyes.
- .....27. The way the dog was killed is the same way as Lennie was killed by George.
- .....28. At one point, George said, "I'd have my own little place, an' I'd be bringin' in my own crops, 'stead of doin' all the work and not getting what comes up outa the ground."
- .....29. Of Mice and Men is a good title because the story itself tells us just what Burns meant when he said. "the best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang att agley."
- .....30. Steinbeck said that Lennie represents the inarticulate and powerful yearning of all men. and refered to its scene as a microcosm. rmaking it plain that this novel was meant to express the inevitable defeat and futility of men's plans.
- .....31. At one point, George said, "Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. 'They got no fambly. They don't belong to no place. They come to a ranch an' `work up a stake and then they go into town and blow their stake, and the firsr thing you know they're pounding their rail on some other ranch."
- .....32. After shooting Lennie, George realized without joy that one dream was dead and another, the dream of lonely independence, had come true.
- .....33. Of Mice and Men is the book in which Steinbeck found at last the form he had been struggling for — the method of objective storytelling which is really a fictional type.
- .....34. George in Of **Mice** and Men is the first contemporary figure in a Steinbeck novel to split before the on slaught of civilization rather than go under.