

-35. Of Mice and Men is Steinbeck's last novel to be directly influenced by Arthurian legend.
-36. Although some critics have not noted to what extent Of Mice and Men is an Arturian legend because the fundamental parallels-the knightly loyalty, the pursuit of the vision, the creation of a bond, and its destruction by an at least potentially adulterous relationship-are there.
-37. The one obvious Arthurian hangover is George. who is not only remarkable loyal to his charge – the feeble- minded Lennie – but also remarkably pure.
-38. Lennie not only warns George against the blandishments of Curley's wife, but is himself obviously impervious to her charms.
-39. While the other ranch hands are excited by her presence, Lennie says only, "Jesus. what a tramp!"
-40. When invited to join the boys in a Saturday night trip to a neighboring town's nice whorehouse, Lennie says that he "might go in an' set and have a shot," but "ain't puttin' out no two and a half."
-41. Lennie does not go by excusing himself on the ground that he is saving money to buy a farm.
-42. When he is told that Curley boasts of having his glove full of Vaseline in order to keep his hand soft for his wife, George says. "That's a dirty thing to tell around."
-43. Here is the description of Curley's wife's death : "..... the meanness and the plannings and the discontent and the ache for attention were all gone from her face. She was pretty and simple, and her face was sweet and young."
-44. By and large, George and Lennie shows no sympathy towards the death of Curley's wife.

- 45. The reader does not need to justify a search for an allegory in *Of Mice and Men* for the author has spoken of the book as symbolic and microcosmic.
- 46. Unquestionably the novel concerns a knight of low estate and a protege who lacks the mental capacity to be conscious enough to know his own strength or to protect himself from temptation.
-47. At first glance, the story has an indifferent nature that makes men physically strong but mentally deficient ; dreaming is man's only defense a world he never made.
-48. George could, of course: have killed Lennie simply to protect the giant brute from the mob, but. since Lennie doesn't know what is going on anyway. it is easy to oversentimentalize George's motives.
-49. In a way. it is correct to state that actually George has reason of his own for pulling the trigger.
- 50. What George is actually trying to kill is not Lennie, who is only a shell and a doomed one at that, but something in himself.
-51. Lennie's need tor George IS obvious, but George's need for iennie, though more obvious, is scarce.
-52. In his most candid appraisal of himself, Lennie says. "I ain't so bright neither, or I wouldn't be buckin barley for my fifty and found. If I was even a little bit smart, I'd have my own little place."
-53. Lennie not only protects but directs George.
-54. Lennie, of course, directs George partly to protect him from committing acts he could not mentally be responsible for, but Lennie is not a wholly altruistic shepherd. ,

-55. One of the aspects of relationship becomes apparent when Lennie tells Slim that George, "Can't think of nothing to do himself, but he can take orders." Since Lennie gives the orders, George gives him a sense of power.
-56. The dream not only gives a direction to their lives. but also makes them feel different from other people.
-57. It is considerably important that Lennie lies to the posse after the shooting.
-58. If the experiance had not matured him, George had here his opportunity for a grand gesture. He could either destroy himself along with Lennie and the dream forces his enemies to destroy him.
-*... 59. George, who by Romantic standards has little left to live for, chooses to go on living and to say that he he had to shoot Lennie in selr-defense.
-60. Despite the grim events it chronicles **Of Mice and Men** is not a tragedy, but a comedy -- which if it were Shakepearean, we would call a "dark comedy" -- about the triumph of the indomitable will to survive.

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PART THREE. Put a check mark (✓) in front of the item (a, b, c, or d) which best fits the numbered word or phrase according to the story.

1. On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up to the strong and rocky Gabilan mountains, but on the valley side the water is lined with trees — willows fresh and green with every spring, carrying in their lower leaf junctures the **debris** of the winter's flooding.
 - a) broken, scattered remains
 - b) absolutely filthy papers
 - c) mossy rock
 - d) barks of the trees

2. On the sandy bank under the trees the leaves lie deep and so **crisp** that a lizard makes a great skittering if he runs along them.
 - a) easily tempted
 - b) easily brittle
 - c) hard to break
 - d) beautiful

3. A **stilted** heron laboured up into the air and pounded down river.
 - a) humble
 - b) hungry
 - c) pompous
 - d) tamed

4. For a moment the place was lifeless, and then two men **emerged** from the path and came into the opening the green pool.
 - a) escaped
 - b) dashed
 - c) hurried
 - d) rose or appeared

5. Both were dressed in **denim** trousers and in denim coats with brass bottoms.
 - a) coarse, twilted cotton cloth
 - b) sharkskin

c) **chamoir**

d) woolen

- 6. His huge companion dropped his blankets and flung himself down and drank from the surface of the green pool; drank with long gulps, snorting into the water like a horse.

a) embracing

b) holding

c) forcing breath suddenly

d) **cont** rolling

7. Lennie dabbled his big paw in the water and wiggled his fingers so the water arose in little splashes.

a) threw

b) moved

c) scratched

d) cleaned

8. The little man jorked down the brim of his hat and scowled over at Lennie.

a) smiled'

b) shouted

c) frowned

d) laughed

9. 'Jesus Christ, ' George said **resignedly**. 'Well -- look, we're gonna work on a ranch like the one we come from up north.'

a) slowly

b) carefully

c) smoothly

d) submissively

10. Lennie **droned** to himself **softly**: 'I ain't gonna say **nothin'**.

a) uttered in a dull, monotonous tone

b) uttered with anger

c) gossiped

d) whispered in a melodious tone

11. A light of understanding broke on Lennie's face. "They run us outa Weed,' he exploded **triumphantly**.
- a) naively
 - b) clearly
 - c) victoriously
 - d) in a dull voice
12. Lennie **lumbered** to his feet and disappeared in the brush.
- a) crawled quickly
 - b) scurried fast
 - c) lay down softly
 - d) moved clumsily
13. But Lennie made an elaborate **pantomime** of innocence. 'What mouse. George? I ain't got no mouse.'
- a) contortion
 - b) twisting
 - c) movement
 - d) gesture
14. Lennie hesitated, backed away, looked wildly at the brush line as though he **contemplated** running for his freedom.
- a) considered
 - b) appreciated
 - c) accumulated
 - d) preferred
15. 'You gonna give me that mouse or do I have to **sock you?**'
- a) leave alone
 - b) hit
 - c) banish
 - d) kill
16. He heard Lennie's **whimpering** cry and wheeled about.
- a) charming
 - b) loud
 - c) trembling
 - d) low, whinnying and broken

17. A big guy like you Lennie's lip **quivered** and tears started in his eyes.
- a) trembled
 - b) shook
 - c) moved up and down
 - d) got wet
18. George still stared morosely at the fire. 'When I think of the **swell** time I could have have without you, I go nuts.
- a) bad
 - b) excellent
 - c) whole
 - d) dull
19. Lennie **choked** with pride. 'I can remember,' he said.
- a) murmured
 - b) mumbled
 - c) stopped the breathing
 - d) moaned
20. The curling branches disappeared and only a faint **glimmer** showed where the tree- trunks were.
- a) vividness
 - b) echo
 - c) realization
 - d) weak, uncertain light
21. Against the walls were eight bunks, five of them made up with blankets and the other three showing their **burlap** ticking.
- a) coarse cloth
 - b) velvet
 - c) khaki
 - d) nylon
22. Those Western magazines ranch-men love to read and **scoff** at and secretly believe.
- a) look upon
 - b) mock
 - c) admire
 - d) deem

23. In the middle of the room stood a big square table **littered** with playing-cards, and around it were grouped boxes for the players to sit on.
- a) adorned
 - b) picturesque
 - c) scattered
 - d) full of
24. The boss **squinted** his eyes. 'Well. I had to send out the grain teams short two buckers. '
- a) looked down
 - b) examined
 - c) opened
 - d) looked sideways
25. 'Damn right he don't.' said George. slightly **mollified**, 'not if he wants to stay workin' long.'
- a) made his feeling calm
 - b) rerror
 - c) fright ened
 - d) scared
26. He stiffened and went into a slight **crouch**
- a) **jump**
 - b) spring
 - c) lowering his body
 - d) cough
27. Lennie **squirmed** under the look and shifted his feet nervously.
- a) rolled his body
 - b) stooped
 - c) raised his eyes
 - d) wriggled
28. He'd slough me. He just don't give a damn. Won't ever get canned 'cause his old man's the boss.'

- a) get rid of
 - b) laugh at
 - c) punish
 - d) mock
29. I gotta be **settin'** out the washbasins for the guys. The teams'll be in **before long**. You guys gonna buck barley?
- a) later
 - b) soon
 - c) at once
 - d) on another occasion
30. George stared at his solitaire lay, and then he **flounced** the cards together and turned around to Lennie.
- a) threw
 - b) collected
 - c) moved with a quick motion
 - d) dived
31. George got up and went over to Lennie's buck and sat down on it.
- a) luggage
 - b) parcel
 - c) box
 - d) bed
32. Lennie raised up on his elbow. His face **contorted** with thought. Then his eyes moved sadly to George's face.
- a) twisted out of the usual appearance
 - b) smiled broadly
 - c) dived into insomnia
 - d) finished off
33. Lennie's eyes moved down over her body, and although she did not seem to be looking at Lennie, she **bridled** a little.
- a) shook
 - b) turned around
 - c) threw back her head
 - d) nodded

34. 'You let Curley take the rape. He let himself in for it. Glove fulla Vaseline, ' George said **disgustedly**.
- a) quickly
 - b) faintly
 - c) loudly
 - d) repulsively
35. Lennie, who had been following the conversation back and forth with his eyes, smiled **complacently** at the compliment.
- a) impolitely
 - b) with love
 - c) silently
 - d) with satisfaction
36. He **chuckled** softly at his joke. 'Ain't small at all.' he repeated
- a) laughed with a closed mouth
 - b) laughed broadly
 - c) smiled happily
 - d) murmured softly
37. Carlson stepped back to let Slim precede him, and then the two of them went out the door.
- a) follow
 - b) take after
 - c) resemble
 - d) come before
38. George said : 'Ya know, Lennie, I'm scared I'm gonna **tangle** with that bastard myself.
- a) murder
 - b) whip
 - c) curse
 - d) to come to blows with
39. 'He ain't **no** cuckoo,' **said** George. 'He's **dumb as hell**, but he ain't crazy. '

- a) absolutely deaf
 - b) completely **stupid**
 - c) easily broken
 - d) hard to accept
40. He wanted to talk, Slim neither encouraged nor discouraged him. He just sat back quiet and **repulsive**.
- a) quick and ready to receive support
 - b) slow to understand what is going on
 - c) without intention
 - d) rude
41. Clean **forgot** I told him to jump in. Well, I ain't done nothing like that no more.
- a) forgot faintly
 - b) forgot quickly
 - c) completely forgot
 - d) remembered well
42. They don't have no fun. After a long time they get **mean** They get **wantin'** to fight **all'the** time.
- a) adventurous
 - b) systematic
 - c) cruel
 - d) kind at heart
43. The guys in Weed start a party out to **lynch** Lennie. So we sit in a irrigation ditch under water all the rest of that day.
- a) put to death without a lawful trial
 - b) punish
 - c) involve
 - d) ret **reat**
44. He reached down and picked the tiny puppy from where Lennie had been **concealing** it against his stomach.
- a) tying
 - b) hiding
 - c) interesting
 - d) moving

45. Lennie farly scuttled out of the room.
- a) trotted
 - b) dawdled
 - c) staggered
 - d) hurried
46. If you want me to, I'll put the old devil out of his misery right now and get it over with.
- a) dissatisfaction
 - b) great suffering
 - c) great devotion
 - d) serious sickness
47. Whit said sarcastically: 'He spends half his time lookin' for her, and the rest of the time she's lookin' for him.'
- a) with delight
 - b) happily
 - c) hurriedly
 - d) with bitter remarks
48. He subsided, grumbling TO himself, threatening the future cats which might dare to disturb the future rabbits.'
- a) talking
 - b) murmuring
 - c) speaking
 - d) complaining in a bad-tempered way
49. Then Curley's rage exploded. 'Come on, ya big bastard. Get up on your feet. No big son-of -a- bitch is gonna laugh at me.'
- a) deep bitterness
 - b) furious anger
 - c) sincere devotion
 - d) victory
50. Being a stable buck and a cripple, he was more permanent than the other men, and he had accumulated more possessions than he could carry on his back.

- a) increased
- b) decreased
- c) reduced
- d) contributed

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PART FOUR. Answer the following questions in good English.

1. Why did both George and Lennie run away from Weed? Explain fully.

2. Describe one of the following characters in detail.

George

Lennie

Brooks

Candy

Slim

Curley

3. What is the real relationship between George and Lennie? Explain fully.

4. From your own point of view, do you think George and Lennie are necessary and appropriate couple?

5. What episode foreshadows Lennie's death? Explain fully.

6. Which do you prefer to be, if necessary, George or Lennie? Use information in the book to support your answer.

7. Lennie has been viewed sometimes as an example of Steinbeck's preoccupation with subhuman type; actually Lennie is not a character in the story at all, but rather a device like a golden coin in **Moby Dick**. Do you agree on this point? Explain fully.
8. Some critics believe that there is a sordid echo of Fitzgerald and the 'lost generation', for, like the **Buchanans** in **The Great Gatsby**, these are "careless people" who smash up things and "let other people clean up the mess." Are you in accord with these critics' belief? Explain fully.

9. In what way does Lennie resemble Candy's dog? Use information in this novel to support your answer.

10. Briefly describe the view that is expressed through the major incident involving **Carlson**: shooting of Candy's old dog.

11. Criticize the following idea: With *Of Mice and Men*, Steinbeck himself unmistakably join the class of craftman, for he not only shows compassion for the plight of the dreamer, but he accomplishes in the manner of a master craftman his intention to sort out and evaluate the categories of men.

12. Write a short paragraph about your impression on this novel. If necessary, quote certain lines to support our answer.

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