Of Mice and Men Chapter Questions

**Chapter 1**

* What imagery/sensory details do we see in chapter one that helps us as the reader imagine the setting? How do these images, especially on the first page make you feel?
* Where do we see possible foreshadowing? (suggestion of future trouble, or past trouble) What do you think might happen in the future based upon these hints?
* Why is the mouse that Lennie carries important? What might the mouse symbolize to Lennie? What about George? The reader?

**Chapter 2**

* Both Curley and Slim are symbols of power on the ranch yet they are vastly different. Explain how they are different using specific examples from the text.
* Pay attention to who George calls a rat-trap (mouse-trap). How might this be foreshadowing? How might this play into the future conflict?

**Chapter 3**

* What does George reveal in this chapter about the beginning of his and Lennie’s relationship? Why does this make George feel responsible for Lennie?
* What happens to Candy and his dog in this chapter? Why did they do it? Why do you think that this event and their reasoning might be significant to the rest of the book?
* What significance does the interaction between Lennie and Curley have? Why do you think that George seems to be of two minds about this interaction? Do you think that Curley will hold his end of the bargain? Why or why not?

**Chapter 4**

* What do you think is behind Crooks’ extreme reactions and emotions (positive and negative) to the following: having company in his room, Curley’s wife, and most importantly the dream of the farm?
* What do you think the dream of the farm means to Crooks? Where is the evidence that backs up your thoughts?
* Why do you think that the four primary characters of the chapter (Crooks, Candy, Curley’s wife, Lennie) do not come together as a group? Especially since they are the outcasts even on a farm full of outcasts?

**Chapter 5**

* What is the mood does the chapter begin on? What event causes it start on this note? What does this signal about the rest of the chapter and book?
* George and Candy cling to the remnants of the dreams they held during this chapter, but what do they eventually realize about the reality of the situation? What is the different realities that both character faces?
* Why do you think the characters spend so much time talking about the missing Luger? Who do you think has the gun? What does this suggest about the end of the novel?

**Chapter 6**

In a paragraph or two answer each of the following (due Monday):

* Reflect on George’s choice about Lennie. Why did he do what he did? Was it the best option? Was it the only option? Would you have done the same in that situation or something different? Explain your reasoning as thoroughly as possible.
* Choose one symbol or moment of foreshadowing in the book that really stuck with you or made an impact. Discuss why this symbol or foreshadowing was important and upon reflection needed in the book.
* What is Steinbeck trying to say about outcasts? What is your take-away message?