***Grapes of Wrath*** **Chapter Notes Worksheet Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  | **Focus Question** | **Setting** | **Character(s)** | **Possible Meanings/Themes** |
| Chapter 1 | What is the purpose of beginning the novel in this way? |  |  |  |
| Chapter 2 | What does the dialogue between Tom Joad and the truck driver reveal? |  |  |  |
| Chapter 3 | Based on what you know about the Dust Bowl, what might be the significance of the turtle? |  |  |  |

***Grapes of Wrath*** **Chapter Notes KEY**

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|  | **Focus Question** | **Setting** | **Character(s)** | **Possible Meanings/Themes** |
| Chapter 1 | What is the purpose of beginning the novel in this way?  [Sets the stage; describes the real historical event; establishes trustworthiness of the author] | [dryness of the earth; the browning corn; the pale sky and earth; the sun’s heat and glare; the dust blowing like smoke in the air; dust filling the air and muffling sound, clogging people’s houses; the dust covering all of the land] | [people seek protection from the dust; the children are muted after the storm; the men are silent; the women ponder their men; the men are unsure but resolute; the people return to a sense of normalcy; the future is unknown but they are confident they can take care of it] | [People are helpless against nature; people are strong and always move forward; people have damaged the environment and now are paying for it] |
| Chapter 2 | What does the dialogue between Tom Joad and the truck driver reveal?  [Tom Joad’s situation; the situation of the sharecroppers; the life of the truck driver; the desire to get ahead; the toughness of Joad and also his gratefulness; the kindness of the truck driver] | [A roadside restaurant along a highway; slot machines inside; diner like in appearance; dust piled along the sides of the road; remote area; evidence of the ruined earth] | [Tom Joad wears new, stiff clothes and a grey cap; he has strong facial features and protruding teeth that cause him to keep his lips closed; hard calloused hands; bold and hardened; appreciative of trucker.  Trucker is sociable, striking up conversations with waitress and Joad; desires to improve self. ] | [People have a desire to improve themselves, seek a better life, to be independent] |
| Chapter 3 | Based on what you know about the Dust Bowl, what might be the significance of the turtle?  [tenacity, perseverance; he faces what seem to be insurmountable odds yet keeps at it and succeeds; the turtle shows defense mechanisms and a “humorous” attitude; all of these might also be attributed to the people of the Dust Storm] | [the concrete highway; everything is dry, parched; insects abound; endless concrete and dust] | [The turtle plods along in his shell, repelling barley beards and burrs; struggles to climb, does not give up; traps and kills the red ant; finds his center of balance and succeeds; one driver swerves to avoid the turtle and the other tries to hit it; turtle has “humorous eyes,” implying it has a positive way of looking at things] | [The turtle is symbolic of the people in the novel; they strive to move forward and persevere; they keep a positive attitude, thinking it will be “all right”; things happen that are out of its control but it does not give up; the drivers suggest two types of people—one is empathetic, the other destructive and cold.] |