***Of Mice and Men* Character/Setting Worksheet Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Characters**

| **Character** | **Physical characteristics** | **Personality and Behavior** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| George |  |  |
| Lenny |  |  |
| Old Swamper, Candy |  |  |
| The Boss |  |  |
| Curley |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Curley’s wife |  |  |
| Slim |  |  |
| Carlson |  |  |

**Explain why George and Lennie are traveling.**

**Describe the dream of George and Lennie.**

**Setting**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Beginning Setting** | **Setting at the Ranch** | **Setting in George and Lennie’s Dream** |
|  |  |  |

**In what ways does the setting affect the characters?**

**The Great Depression was a time of great poverty and many challenges for most people. What details in the setting of the novella reflect this idea?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Character** | **Physical characteristics** | **Personality and Behavior** |
| George | (Small, quick; small strong hands, thin nose, dark faced; “restless eyes”) | (domineering, aggressive, sharp-toned; leader; impatient; expressive; cares for Lennie; abrupt; easy to anger; neat; speaks for Lennie) |
| Lenny | (large, “shapeless” face; large, pale eyes; wide shoulders; heavy walk; bearlike; hands like paws) | (rough and clumsy acting; follower; timid; childlike; likes little things; doesn’t know his strength; submissive; strong; not intelligent) |
| Old Swamper, Candy | (tall, stop-shouldered; one-handed; white whiskers) | (cares for bunkhouse; knows everything about ranch; observant; loves his dog; responsible worker) |
| The Boss | (short, stocky; wear Stetson hats, blue jeans, belt with big buckle, high-heeled boots and spurs; fat-legged) | (fair and nice to ranch hands, according to Swamper; precise recordkeeper) |
| Curley | (thin, young, brown face and brown eyes, curly hair; high-heeled boots; former boxer) | (cold, calculating, “pugnacious”; belligerent; mean; uncaring; arrogant) |

**KEY**

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| Curley’s wife | (pretty, curly hair, red lips; lots of makeup, red fingernails) | (restless, likes men; flirtatious, seductive) |
| Slim | (Tall and big; long black hair; ageless face; slow speech; large, delicate hands; gentle voice) | (majestic, confident; skilled; “prince of the ranch”; serious and quiet; thoughtful; kind, friendly; dignified) |
| Carlson | (big stomach, strong) | (friendly) |

**Explain why George and Lennie are traveling.**

(They are getting a new job on a ranch; Lennie got in serious trouble at their previous location.)

**Describe the dream of George and Lennie.**

(They are going to have their own place someday, with a house, some land, a garden, farm animals, and rabbits for Lennie; they will be self-sufficient and “live off the fatta the lan’”.)

**Setting**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Beginning Setting** | **Setting at the Ranch** | **Setting in George and Lennie’s Dream** |
| (Soledad, California, along the Salinas River; rocky mountains; pool; trees lining river; dry, fallen leaves; pleasant day, sun shining, warm and clear; peaceful and quiet, placid; rabbits appear along with a heron, lizard) | (bunkhouse with whitewashed walls and unpainted floor; small windows, solid wood door; bunks with blankets and burlap ticking; each bunk has an apple box for personal items; male accessories—razors, Western magazines, neckties; cast iron stove and table with cards, boxes for chairs; simple and rough; sounds of mule teams and chains in outside) | (own their own place with a house, some land, farm animals, vegetable garden, and rabbits for Lennie to care for) |

**In what ways does the setting affect the characters?**

(George and Lennie are forced to be nomadic, to go from ranch to ranch to make a living. The natural beauty of the area supplies them with their dream of independence. The setting provides the background for the small animals that Lennie relates to.)

**The Great Depression was a time of great poverty and many challenges for most people. What details in the setting of the novella reflect this idea?** (George and Lennie travel with their belongings on their back. Everything they own is tied up in a blanket roll. While on the road they eat by campfire. They are forced to submit to the rules of others and stay in temporary housing. This is in contrast to the dream George relates, in which they are independent and live off their own land.)