

Autumn | English | Of Mice and Men

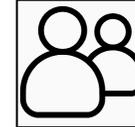
Week 1: American Dream in the 1930s

- The novella, written by John Steinbeck, is set in California, in the 1930s. This was a period of huge inequality and disruption.
- This week we will study the Roaring Twenties, a decade of economic growth, and the Great Depression which followed the economic crisis of The Wall Street Crash.



Week 2: Meet Lennie and George

- The reader meets George and Lennie, the main characters. They are travelling in the countryside, looking for work.



Week 3: The Bunkhouse and The Ranch

- We learn that the conditions of the bunkhouse are poor.
- Curley's wife is introduced and is shown as a femme fatale.



Week 4: Candy's Dog, Dreams and Dust-Ups

- George and Lennie discuss their dream of owning a place.
- Curley uses his boxing skills to fight Lennie but is hurt.
- We will explore the symbolic significance of Candy's dog.



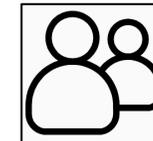
Week 5: Focus on Crooks

- Lennie meets Crooks, the only black worker on the ranch.
- Crooks discusses how lonely his own life can be.
- This week we will be exploring racism in the 1930s and how this is portrayed in the book.



Week 6: Curley's Wife and The Ending.

- Curley's wife dreams of being an actress. This week we will be exploring gender inequality in the 1930s.
- The story comes to a tragic close.



Novella	A work of narrative prose fiction, longer than a short story but shorter than a novella.
Archetype	A very typical example of a certain person or thing.
Autocracy	A leadership style in which an individual controls all decisions with little input from team members.
Democracy	A leadership style in which members of the group take part in the decision-making process.
Paternalistic	A leadership style that treats team members like an extended family.
American Dream	The ideal by which equality of opportunity is available to any American, allowing the highest aspirations and goals to be achieved.
Segregation	The action of setting someone or something apart from others.
Connotations	An idea or feeling which a word invokes, in addition to its literal meaning.
Climax	The turning point in the text that changes the protagonist's fate.
Circular Narrative	The story moves one event at a time to end back where the story originated.
Dénouement	A part in a story where normality is restored and all conflicts are resolved.