Of Mice and Men Summative Assessment

Purpose:

The purpose of this summative assessment is to find out how far my students have progressed throughout the unit in regards to the content standards. My students should have a deeper understanding of the significance of relationships from studying the novel, Of Mice and Men. They also will have become more familiar with literary elements and literary devices. The final purpose of this summative assessment is to gauge my students reading comprehension skills and ability to connect literature to their own lives.

Standards:

1. Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
2. Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
3. Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Learning Targets:

3.1 Develop the skills of close and contextual literary reading.
3.2 Read and respond to classic and contemporary fiction, literary nonfiction, and expository text, from a variety of literary genre representing many time periods and authors.
3.3 Use knowledge of literary history, traditions, and theory to respond to and analyze the meaning of texts.
3.4 Examine mass media, film, series fiction, and other texts from
popular culture.

“I Can” Statements:

3.1 I can closely read a text for meaning and understanding.

3.2 I can read and respond to contemporary fiction, literary nonfiction, and expository text from a variety of genres, time periods, and authors.

3.3 I can use my knowledge of literary history, traditions, and theory to respond to and analyze the meaning of texts.

3.4 I can examine mass media, film, series fiction, and other texts from popular culture.

Goal of the Unit:

The goal of this unit is to learn how to examine relationships and characters through closely reading a novel. Another goal of the unit is to respond to and analyze the meaning of texts from different genres.

Frequency Distribution of Learning Targets:

*Hypothetically, I have 30 students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Target</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
<th>Not Yet Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Response Items

Directions: Read the beginning of the sentence and fill in the lines that follow with the correct answer.

1. The author of Of Mice and Men is________ __________.
2. The point of view that Of Mice and Men is told from is_______ _________ ________.

Directions: Read the following questions and circle the letter that corresponds to the correct response.

3. Which of the following dreams does Curley’s wife wish she would have followed?
   a. Becoming a movie star
   b. Getting married to another man
   c. Moving to France
   d. Opening her own restaurant

4. Who discovers Curley’s wife after she has been killed?
   a. George
   b. Curley
   c. Candy
   d. Crooks

Directions: Read the following statements and mark them either “T” for true or “F” for false. If the statement is false, rewrite it on the line provided to make it true.

5. _____ Of Mice and Men is set in rural Nevada.
6. _____ When Lennie realized that he has killed Curley's wife, he tries to bury her in the hay.

Directions: Read the following character descriptions and write the letter that corresponds with the correct character in the blank next to the description.

h. The Boss   i. Aunt Clara

7. _____ Other characters refer to her as a “tramp,” a “tart,” and a “looloo.”

8. _____ He is Curley’s father.

9. _____ Gentle, kind, and mentally disabled, he depends strongly on George.

10. _____ He has lost his hand in an accident.

11. _____ He is the “prince” of the ranch.

12. _____ He kills Lennie.

13. _____ He is rumored to be a champion prizefighter.

14. _____ She took care of Lennie until her death.

15. _____ He convinces Candy to put his dog down.
Extended Written Response Items

Directions: Read the following prompt and respond to it with an essay or letter, depending on the directions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Distinguished</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Progressing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>Ideas are presented logically and organized clearly</td>
<td>Ideas are presented in a somewhat confusing manner</td>
<td>Ideas are unorganized so that meaning is hard to understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>Ideas are supported with more than adequate information from the text</td>
<td>Ideas are supported with adequate textual information</td>
<td>There is little information from the text to support ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creativity</strong></td>
<td>Ideas are very unique</td>
<td>Ideas are somewhat unique</td>
<td>Ideas show little uniqueness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling/Grammar</strong></td>
<td>Less than 5 spelling/grammar mistakes are present</td>
<td>Between 5-10 spelling/grammar mistakes are present</td>
<td>More than 10 spelling/grammar mistakes are present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Although relationships between men and women are often the subject of books and movies, women do not play a large role in *Of Mice and Men*. Write a brief essay discussing the relationships between men in *Of Mice and Men*. Use at least three different relationships in your writing.

2. Write a brief essay discussing the role of Curley’s wife on the all-male ranch. Why did the author choose to include her in the story?

3. At the end of the novel, George kills Lennie in order to save him from his inevitable fate as a criminal. In your opinion, did George do the right thing? Write a brief letter to a classmate who has also read the book, and explain your point of view.
4. One of the main themes in Of Mice in Men is the role of relationships in a person's life. Choose a relationship that is important in your life, such as a friend or family member, and write about how a time when that relationship helped you solve a problem.

5. Compare and contrast the death of Curley's wife with the death of Lennie. In what ways are the two deaths alike, and in what ways are they different?

6. Compare and contrast Lennie and George's relationship in Of Mice and Men with Mitch and Morrie's relationship in Tuesdays with Morrie. How are the relationships different, and how are they similar?

7. In Of Mice and Men, many of the characters speak with a dialect that is typical of farm laborers during the great depression. They say things like "Me an' him goes ever' place together" (77). Write five sentences in a dialect you have heard that is different from your own. If you don't know of any other real dialect, make one up!

8. Imagine you are George and you have just accidentally killed Curley's wife. How would you react, and what would you do next? Write a paragraph explaining what you would do.

9. Imagine that you are a ranch-hand who works at Curley's father's ranch. Write a letter to a friend describing what you think of the new guys, George and Lennie.

10. Write a brief essay describing why you think the author chose to set Of Mice and Men in a rural area. How would the story have been different if it had been set in a big city?