

English 3 Study Guide

Using this study guide will help you prepare for your section quizzes and unit exam and ensure that you learn the most important content. Keep it near you, and take notes as you progress through the unit. When you have finished the unit, be sure to store it in a notebook or in a specific folder on your computer so that you can use it to study for the semester exam.

Rebellion and Conformity/ Comparing the Language of Texts

1. This section discussed the theme of rebellion and conformity in literature. Read the five quotes at the beginning of this section. With which one do you agree the most? Why?

2. This section also discussed causes and effects of events. What caused “one of the biggest economical recessions in the history of this country”?

3. What occurrences during the behavior of Americans during the 1920s also contributed to the financial instability of the 1930s?

4. Complete the Introduction to *Of Mice and Men* **Click to Learn** and answer questions below.
A. How did the economic events after the 1929 Stock Market Crash create social consequences?

B. In the following quote, what is Robert Burns saying about the dreams and plans of people?

The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft agley [often go wrong]
An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain
For promis'd joy.

C. How does Steinbeck create vividness in his novella, *Of Mice and Men*?

- _____
- _____
- _____

D. Fill in the blanks in the following paragraph using the Word Bank:

Word Bank		
Novella conformity	Steinbeck unpredictable	American Dream Great Depression

Although people have the freedom to pursue their vision of the _____, sometimes their choices lead them down a path both _____ and unwanted. During the 1930s, the pace of American life slowed until people lived from moment to moment, their dreams crumbling to dust. *Of Mice and Men*, a _____ by John _____, captured the price of freedom, the tension between rebellion and _____, and the loneliness and isolation people during the _____ felt when they realized the futility and emptiness of their dreams.

E. Using the Word Bank, fill in the blanks in the following paragraphs which introduce John Steinbeck: Setting the Pace of American Literature in the click to learn.

Word Bank			
simplistic themes dreams firsthand	Nobel Prize migrant	diction economic	journalism confinement

John Steinbeck, winner of the _____ for Literature in 1962, captured the dwindling _____ of displaced Americans who migrated towards California during the Great Depression. Many of his novellas, novels and nonfiction writings explored the social and _____ problems of rural labor. Steinbeck's idea for *Of Mice and Men* developed from his _____ experiences following _____ workers in California for a *San Francisco News* _____ assignment.

Steinbeck's _____ style of writing accurately characterizes the migrant worker of the 1930s while exploring _____ of freedom and _____, rebellion and conformity, and isolation and loneliness. Throughout the rest of Unit 2, we will explore the style, tone, and _____ of John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* within the historical context of the Great Depression.

5. Watch the Style, **Tone and Diction Tutorial** and read Chapter One in *Of Mice and Men*. Then, answer the following questions:

A. What is Steinbeck's style in describing the setting of the story? Remember, setting has 3 components: time, place, and mood.

B. How does Steinbeck use diction and tone to describe George Milton and Lennie Small in terms of their physical descriptions, personalities and relationship?

C. Cite at least one example from Chapter One that illustrates the theme of freedom and confinement. Explain how your example reveals the theme.

6. Match the character description to the character being **described**.

A. Lennie	B. George
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_____ "The first man was small and quick, dark of face, with restless eyes and sharp, strong features. Every part of him was defined: small, strong hands, slender arms, a thin and bony nose."

_____ "Behind him walked his opposite, a huge man, shapeless face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws. His arms did not swing at his sides, but hung loosely."

7. Define the following terms as they relate to literature:

context	
author's style	
tone	
diction	

8. Read Part II in *Of Mice and Men*. As you are reading, answer the following questions.

A. What is the social structure among the ranch hands? (George, Lennie, Candy and his old dog, Slim, Carlson, Curley and Curley's wife)

B. Describe the role or personality of each person below.

Candy:

Slim:

Carlson:

Curley:

Curley's Wife:

C. How does Steinbeck's style, tone and diction reveal his viewpoint about the social structure among the ranch hands?

D. Explain how context affects an author's style, tone, and diction.

E. Give two examples of how George and Lennie both rebel and conform to the image of migrant workers and the social hierarchy on the ranch.

1.	
2.	

9. What is John Steinbeck's viewpoint of pursuing a dream?

10. The rhetorical context refers to which three elements that an author must take into account when writing?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

11. Analyzing how different authors use style, tone and diction in two very different texts (fiction and nonfiction) can help readers understand the importance of language in the composition process. Please complete the following two tasks:

A. Read **President Roosevelt's 1933 inaugural speech** and identify the rhetorical context (audience, purpose, topic).

context	
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author's style	
tone	
diction	

B. Compare and contrast President Roosevelt's and Steinbeck's contexts for their nonfiction and fiction texts, and think about how their style, tone and diction are reflective of their contexts.

	President Roosevelt's context	Steinbeck's context
Style		
Tone		
Diction		