Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Of Mice and Men Characters & Literary Techniques**

**Characters**

*LI: learn to compare and contrast the way author’s depict characters*

Look at the way both Lennie and George are first described. How is this initial description fitting when we find out more about each man?

|  |
| --- |
| *Both men are dressed in “denim”. This makes us think \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. George is described “small and quick, dark of face with restless eyes and sharp, strong features.” This suggests that George \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Lennie is described as “huge, shapeless of face with wide, sloping shoulders.” This implies that he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The fact that he walks behind George and imitates his movements, also suggests \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. |

**Literary Techniques:**

*LI: learn to detect writers’ literary devices – [parallels, irony, motifs]*

**IRONY – when something is the opposite to what you would expect**

1. Give three examples of **irony** (either verbal, situational, or dramatic) that you find in the novel.

i. (hint: Curly’s wife **trusts** Lennie enough to reveal her innermost feelings)

ii.

iii.

**SYMBOLISM – when objects represent something bigger, a concept, an idea…**

1. Give three examples of **symbolism** that you find in the novel. Name the idea or thing and what it stands for.

i.

ii.

iii.

**PARALLELS AND CONTRASTS:**

1. Parallels are things that are similar or alike and their similarity provides emphasis. Contrasts, on the other hand, are things that are different, but they also provide emphasis. Give examples of each from the novel. The first one in each case is give as an example.

**Parallels**:

i. George and Lennie’s dream and Curley’s wife’s dream: both are never realized.

ii.

iii.

iv.

**Contrasts:**

i. George is small and smart; Lennie is big and dumb

ii.

iii.

iv.

**Foreshadowing**

Foreshadowing is when the writer includes things in the story that are a warning of something that is going to happen later in the story. List 3 examples of foreshadowing – hint used to indicate that Lennie will do something bad.

i

ii

iii

**MOTIFS** are recurring or dominant ideas/settings/objects etc in literature that reinforce a particular theme. A motif is something symbolic that shows up in a work to reinforce the work's main theme. Usually, it's a physical object, but sometimes it can take on a different form. Motifs recur throughout a work as opposed to only appearing once, and they must hold significance to the plot.

Some clear motifs in Of Mice and Men include:

i

ii

iii