

Section Three

1. Write down the four most important events that take place in Section Three of the novel.
2. Write down a list of the names of the characters we have met so far. Consider what Steinbeck might have meant to suggest to us by the use of these names.
3. People's hands play an important part in the novel: look back through the sections we have read and pick out quotations about the following characters' hands: Lennie; George; Slim; Candy; Curley; Curley's wife. What might Steinbeck be implying about the character from the way he describes their hands? Remember that the story takes place on a ranch, where physical work is of the utmost importance.
4. Write out a summary of the shooting of Candy's dog. Include the following information: who suggests it; how Candy reacts; who has the power to intervene (stop it) but does not; how Candy is talked into it; how the dog is led away; the atmosphere whilst the men wait for the shooting; what you think of the man who does it and why you hold this opinion.
5. Explain why the fight between Curley and Lennie might be considered a pivotal moment in the story. Write your ideas out in full sentences and include quotations where appropriate.
6. There are five women mentioned in the novel and by the middle of Section Three we have heard about all of them. Write down the names of the women, who they are, what importance you think they have in the novel and what they show the reader about the status of women.