

## Sample H5B

Write your answers to Section A Questions (a) and (b) here:

a) The language in the extract ~~portrays~~ portrays Slim to be of very high authority on the ranch. As he moved ~~into~~ into the room, his manner is described as 'with a majesty only achieved by royalty', this shows that Slim wants to be an influence on others in the ranch, ~~he~~ he wants people to think highly of him when they look at him. His authority is also ~~an~~ obvious when he is described as 'the prince of the ranch' implying that he is the type of person who gets what he wants and doesn't have to ask twice.

~~Slim's royal status is also implied in the way ~~the~~ features are described to make him seem intricate and refined.~~

Slim's high status is also ~~implied~~ demonstrated when Steinbeck says, 'There was a gravity in his manner and a quiet so profound that ~~at~~ all talk stopped when he spoke.' This suggests that

## Sample H5B

The other men on the ranch value his opinion; they know that he is a wise, clever man. This can also be implied when the author says 'his word was taken on any subject be it politics or love.'

Slim's appearance is intricate and refined. His face is described as 'ageless' suggesting that he might ~~be~~ could be a rather mysterious character, ~~moreover~~, when his voice is said to have 'over tones' of 'understanding beyond thought', this could show ~~what~~ how sensitive ~~of~~ he is, making him seem kind and approachable. The description of his hands, also, give ~~a~~ the impression that he ~~is~~ is a rather sensitive character by saying they are ~~so~~ delicate ~~as~~ in their action ~~act~~ as those of a temple dancer; however, the words 'large and lean' prevent him ~~p~~ from seeming feminine.

When Slim speaks to George, he is welcoming of him and Lennie. It is clear that he wants them to feel at home when he says "Hope you get on my team," with a 'gentle' voice. Implying that he would love a fresh couple of guys around.

His impression of being kind and understanding is ~~also~~ continued when George compliments Lennie and Slim looks 'approvingly' at George. Showing that Slim admires someone who doesn't try so hard to seem ~~to~~ burley and emotionless.

## Sample H5B

b) When presenting the character of Crooks, Steinbeck's first description of him is "the negro stable buck".

This simple sentence immediately shows ~~the~~ the reader that Crooks is ~~not likely~~ of very low status on the ranch because 'negro' people were discriminated against and segregated during the 1930s, when the novel was set.

Crooks' character is introduced in his room. His bunk has been made separate from ~~at~~ the main bunkhouse due to his race. The room ~~is situated~~ ~~in a little~~ 'little room' is situated in a 'little shed', the use of the word 'little' implies Crooks' lower status. ~~and~~ The shed that he lives in is in fact the harness room, which ~~is~~ was originally not meant for human habitation, ~~the~~ this demonstrates that Crooks is being treated like an animal.

The surroundings in Crooks' room introduce ~~the~~ Crooks' character more than Crooks himself does. The so-called 'bunk' is ~~actually~~ actually a 'long box filled with straw', ~~and~~ which could also add to the impression that Crooks is seen as an animal rather than a human.

When describing Crooks' various belongings scattered around the room, Steinbeck uses the word 'split' twice to describe the things around him. The use of the word, although it was used to describe

## Sample H5B

a collar and a leather covering, represents how Crooks is split from everyone else in the ranch, bringing out his situation almost in a subliminal way.

When the author says 'Crooks could leave his things about' it suggests that, due to being a 'negro', nobody wants to go near his possessions, no matter how valuable they were.

The fact that Crooks owns 'several pairs of shoes' implies that he takes some pride in his appearance, for most men on the ranch only have one pair. Also included in his ~~poss~~ belongings are various books; the fact that he is able to read books represents that he is attempting to prove a point - his forefathers would have been slaves and would never have learnt to read. The fact that Crooks has taught himself to read shows that he wants others to know that they ~~do not~~ ~~he~~ do not have the right to discriminate against him ~~because he~~ due to intelligence. ~~Among his~~ Furthermore, a 'mauled' copy of the California civil code is found among his books. The fact that it is 'mauled' shows that it has been worn down from being read over and over. This could also contribute to him wanting to prove a point, if someone tries to interrogate him, he can refer back to it, and ~~and~~ ~~then~~ therefore he is able to stand up for himself.