

Of Mice and Men  
Foundation Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

## *Of Mice and Men*

### **Extract taken from Section 5.**

He looked down at her, and carefully he removed his hand from over her mouth, and she lay still. 'I don't want ta hurt you,' he said, 'but George'll be mad if you yell.' When she didn't answer nor move he bent closely over her. He lifted her arm and let it drop. For a moment he seemed bewildered. And then he whispered in fright, 'I done a bad thing.' 'I done another bad thing.'

He pawed up the hay until it partly covered her.

From outside the barn came a cry of men and the double clang of shoes on metal. For the first time Lennie became conscious of the outside. He crouched down in the hay and listened. 'I done a real bad thing,' he said. 'I shouldn't of did that. George'll be mad. An' ... he said ... an' hide in the brush till he come. He's gonna be mad. In the brush till he come. Tha's what he said.' Lennie went back and looked at the dead girl. The puppy lay close to her. Lennie picked it up. 'I'll throw him away,' he said. 'It's bad enough like it is.' He put the pup under his coat, and he crept to the barn wall and peered out between the cracks, toward the horseshoe game. And then he crept around the end of the last manger and disappeared.

The sun streaks were high on the wall by now, and the light was growing soft in the barn. Curley's wife lay on her back, and she was half covered with hay.

It was very quiet in the barn, and the quiet of the afternoon was on the ranch. Even the clang of the pitched shoes, even the voices of the men in the game seemed to grow more quiet. The air in the barn was dusky in advance of the outside day. A pigeon flew in through the open hay door and circled and flew out again. Around the last stall came a shepherd bitch, lean and long, with heavy, hanging dugs. Halfway to the packing box where the puppies were she caught the dead scent of Curley's wife, and the hair rose along her spine. She whimpered and cringed to the packing box, and jumped in among the puppies.

Curley's wife lay with a half-covering of yellow hay. And the meanness and the plannings and the discontent and the ache for attention were all gone from her face. She was very pretty and simple, and her face was sweet and young. Now her rouged cheeks and her reddened lips made her seem alive and sleeping very lightly. The curls, tiny little sausages, were spread on the hay behind her head, and her lips were parted.

As happens sometimes, a moment settled and hovered and remained for much more than a moment. And sound stopped and movement stopped for much, much more than a moment.

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## Of Mice and Men – Foundation Tier – part (a) (i)

5 Answer all parts of the following question.

(a) (i) Give **three** examples of the writer's use of language in the extract.

Identify the language feature for each example chosen.

An example has been given to help you.

Example: clang of shoes on metal

Feature: *This is onomatopoeia.*

(3)

### Script 1 response to part a)

0 marks

Example 1:

'Clang of the pitched shoes' &

Feature:

This is onomatopoeia

Example 2:

'She whispered and changed'

Feature:

This is a Adverb

Example 3:

'he crept around'

Feature:

This is a Adjective

### Examiner summary:

The candidate's second and third language features are incorrect; there is no credit for the identification of onomatopoeia in 'clang' as it is the given example.

## Script 2 response to part a)

3 marks

Example 1: I <sup>don't</sup> want to hurt you.

Feature: personal pronoun

Example 2: ~~the~~ partly

Feature: adverb

Example 3: covered

Feature: verb

### Examiner summary:

*The candidate successfully identifies three language features and uses examples from the extract.*

### Script 3 response to part (a)

Example 1: 'Tha's what he said'

Feature: This is slang.

Example 2: 'George'll be mad'

Feature: This is a short sentence.

Example 3: 'Lean and long with heavy hanging...'

Feature: This shows alliteration.

### Examiner summary:

*The candidate successfully identifies three language features and uses examples from the extract*

## Of Mice and Men – Foundation Tier – part (a) (ii)

- (ii) Explain how the language in the extract influences your view of what takes place after the death of Curley's wife.

You may include the examples you have used in your answer to 5(a)(i).

(13)

### Script 1 response to part (a) (ii)

#### Band 3 – 7 marks

The language in the extract influences my view of what takes place after Curley's wife's death.

The atmosphere is now ~~odd~~ and animals are picking up the scent of the dead body before anyone else can. They remain silent, maybe because they didn't want to be next.

In the extract, the mother of Slims pops 'cringed' this could be due to the fact that a dogs smell is greater than a humans, so she is picking up the scent of a ~~dead~~ dead body.

Also in the extract Steinbeck  
 uses the word creep to describe  
 Lennie's actions. This could be linked  
 to 'the way a bear drags his paws' in Chapter  
 1, Page 2, however in the extract he creeps, like  
 what bears do, so Steinbeck is describing  
 Lennie as a bear, mainly due to the fact  
 that he is as big as one.

### Examiner summary:

The candidate shows some understanding of the writer's ideas and use of language in the extract. The points are supported with some relevant references to the extract, however the response drifts away from the extract in the final comments on Lennie's actions.

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some understanding of the text</li> <li>• Some understanding of the writer's ideas</li> <li>• Some understanding of how the writer uses language</li> <li>• Occasional relevant reference to the extract to support response.</li> </ul>
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**To move up to the next band:** This response needs to refer more closely to the extract and use more relevant quotations to support points made about the writer's use of language.

## Script 2 response to part (a) (ii)

### Band 4 – 10 marks

~~What happens after Curley's wife's~~ The use of the language in the extract influences ~~on~~ my view of what takes place after Curley's wife's death. ~~The~~ first after she<sup>is</sup> dead there's silence but after Lennie had realised what he'd done and so correctly put it into the category of 'a bad thing' there was 'the double clang of horse shoes' this is like a death toll and bursts through Lennie's bubble.

~~the pigeon symbol~~ There was a ~~symbol~~<sup>couple</sup> of animals that entered a pigeon and ~~and~~ a dog. 'a pigeon flew in through the open hay door' 'around the last stall came a shepherd bitch' the shepherd bitch could symbolize her life always trying to control things but only able to manipulate them a little. and the pigeon after death when she finally stopped fighting and peace overcame her

### Examiner summary:

The candidate shows a generally sound understanding of the writer's ideas and use of language in the extract. There is some clear reference to support the points made.

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

4	9-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Generally sound understanding of the text</li><li>• Generally sound understanding of the writer's ideas</li><li>• Generally sound understanding of how the writer uses language</li><li>• Mostly clear reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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**To move up to the next band:** This response needs to develop the points and support these with clear references to the extract.



### Script 3 response to part (a) (ii)

Band 5 – 13 marks

The language used in the extract influences the reader's view of what takes place after the death of Curley's wife. After Lennie kills Curley's wife he realises what he has done and the consequences for that. In the novel it states 'I shouldn't of did that. George'll be mad'. The use of short sentences displays the fast pace Lennie is speaking at as he is scared and unaware of what to do.

After Curley's wife's death, the reader can once again see the impact of George and Lennie's unusual ~~relationship~~ <sup>for the time period</sup> relationship. In the extract it states 'George'll be mad' which is repeated several times relating to how mad George will be after finding out what he has done. Lennie automatically thinks of how George will react which ~~emphasises~~ shows how close they are, and the fact that George is more of a protector for Lennie; like a father figure.

In the extract Steinbeck uses light to represent the atmosphere also resembling what is about to take place. 'The sun screens were high on the wall by now, and the light was growing soft in the barn', is used to describe the atmosphere after the death of Curley's wife. This may be symbolising that Lennie's and George's dream will also die on the farm. Another thing it can be symbolising is the upcoming events which are destined to be gloomy.

Curley's wife was also very lonely in the novel and also had dreams however choosing the wrong decisions in her life led her to be an unimportant person. In the extract it states 'all the meanness and the plannings and the discontent and the ache for attention was all gone from her face' This shows how lonely and longing for change to occur in her life however she was stuck in a loveless marriage. All of her 'crimes' are shown in this ~~short~~ sentence however it does display to the reader that her punishment outweighed all the bad things she had done. ~~After~~ It shows that it was a big price she had to pay however in the end her 'sweet' and 'young' face was displayed to reader proving she ~~wasn't~~ was an innocent character.

When the reader understands Curley's wife character fully, they realise she doesn't deserve the names ~~portrayed~~ <sup>inflicted</sup> given by the ranch workers and the sadness is also ~~engraved~~ <sup>engraved</sup> into the reader. In the extract it states 'a moment passed settled and horrified and remained for much <sup>more</sup> than a moment'. The way Steinbeck drags out the fact it is the longest minute is ~~imperfectly~~ <sup>imperfectly</sup> portrayed through his choice of words. He uses long sentences as well as onomatopoeia for the reader to take in the death of an innocent woman.

**Examiner summary:**

*The candidate shows sound understanding of the text and how the writer uses language to present the events after the death of Curley's wife. There are clear references to the extract to support the response.*

**Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:**

5	12-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sound understanding of the text</li><li>• Sound understanding of the writer's ideas</li><li>• Sound understanding of how the writer uses language</li><li>• Clear reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks.

## Of Mice and Men – Foundation Tier – part (b)

(b) This extract shows an important event.

Describe how an important event is presented in **one other** part of the novel.

In your answer you should give examples of the language the writer uses.

You may wish to consider how the writer:

- describes the event
- describes what the characters say and do
- describes the atmosphere.

(24)

### Script 1 response to part (b)

#### Band 3– 14 marks

Another important event in the novel takes place at Chapter 3, Pages 65-70 where Lennie fights with Curley by crossing his hand.

Steinbeck use a variety of language features on these pages, one of them is 'Curley was poised' this has use of a adverb being 'poised'.

Steinbeck also uses 'Curley stepped over to Lennie like a boxer' this is a metaphor, for 'Let's have a boxer, Slim and the others'. The writer describes the atmosphere as being 'full of rage' this is because of the ranch and workers making fun of Curley especially about his 'glad 'fella vasante'. Steinbeck also describes how Lennie



## Script 2 response to part (b)

### Band 5– 24 marks

in the extract on pages 115–116 Steinbeck uses a variety of language to describe the atmosphere. 'on the mind came the sound of crashing in brush came to them.' this connotes a tense atmosphere because at any moment curly could leap out baying for blood. ~~the word~~ the word 'crashing' could symbolize ~~the act of~~ the act of destruction that curly is about to commit being the only disturbance on a peaceful night is relaying his murderous intent.

the things that are said about the characters also ~~show~~ add to pressure of the setting so when George is described as 'business-like' it's to show the reader how set his mind is on this act of mercy but the fact 'George raised the gun and his hand shook' shows he doesn't want to believe he has to do this kill his best friend and his soul purpose for living. The point Steinbeck is ~~strongly~~ strongly showing the reader is that Lennie and George are so closely connected that for George to do it would kill a part of himself.

### Examiner summary:

The candidate gives a clear identification of a suitable extract from 'one other part of the novel'. The response is concise, but also precise in its references and shows sound understanding of the chosen extract.

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	20-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sound understanding of the text</li><li>• Sound understanding of the writer's ideas</li><li>• Sound understanding of how the writer uses language</li><li>• Clear reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks

## Script 3 response to part (b)

Band 5– 24 marks

\* question 5b:

The extract I am going to be analysing is in chapter four, pages 74–76 where Lennie appears in Crooks' room. I have chosen this extract as it portrays many key themes: loneliness; racism and about hopes and dreams.

When Lennie enters Crooks' room, Crooks was instantly very protective of his rights, by having 'scowl' on his face, Crooks 'sharply' said 'You got no right to come in my room'... Nobody got any right in here but me'. This shows that Lennie has never really had any company before therefore when he does, he doesn't know how to react therefore takes the harsh approach as he is determined to keep his rights. This shows isolation as well as loneliness.

It becomes clear throughout the extract why he initially behaved this way, 'Cause I'm black', is the response when Lennie asked why he isn't wanted. This instantly portrays how times were like when the book was written; prejudice. There were many prejudice claims, whether it be sexism, which is shown through Curley's wife or racism. This instantly makes the reader feel sorry for Crooks as he is treated differently through no fault of his own. Also the short sentence

emphasizes the fact it is a small, unimportant issue however greatly affects ~~a~~ many like Crooks.

Crooks is not only discriminated against ~~for~~ due to the colour of his skin but also through ~~disability~~ disability. Crooks has a bad back and needs treatment for it, 'in one hand ~~he~~ he held a bottle of liniment, and with the other he rubbed his spine'. This affects Crooks in the bunkhouse as he can't do many jobs, therefore is left with an unwanted job: 'stable buck'. Also the use of 'flexed his muscles against his back and shivered' leads the reader to sympathise for Crooks.

With everything, Crooks is lonely as he doesn't have the right to go to the bunkhouse and converse with others therefore over reacts in reassurance that he is protecting his rights. First when Crooks sees Lennie he is shouting at him to leave ~~and then~~ <sup>and then</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> exclaiming 'he isn't wanted' however later on he 'invitingly' says 'set down' as he realised Lennie isn't going to harm him and can do with some company.

Dreams is also slightly in this extract as Lennie begins telling Crooks about his and George's dream to 'live on the fatta the lan'. Crooks at first is hesitant to believe this as he knows



ennie is 'nuts' Later when candy arrives, crooks realises it is true and is ~~an~~ intrigued. This proves that crooks, like everyone else in the novel, has dreams and ambitions.

This part of the book displays an important event as the social and historic background is portrayed to the reader and describes how life is like for black people such as crooks.

#### **Examiner summary:**

*The candidate chooses a suitable other part of the novel and shows clear understanding of the extract and shows with clear textual references how the writer uses language to express his ideas The candidate does refer to the social/historical context of the novel which is not assessed in English Language, however this does not impact on the marks awarded.*

#### **Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:**

5	20-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sound understanding of the text</li><li>• Sound understanding of the writer's ideas</li><li>• Sound understanding of how the writer uses language</li><li>• Clear reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks