

GCSE English
5EH2F/01

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

Included in this pack:

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

Extract taken from Section 3.

'Well, I can't stand him in here,' said Carlson. 'That stink hangs around even after he's gone.' He walked over with his heavy-legged stride and looked down at the dog. 'Got no teeth,' he said. 'He's all stiff with rheumatism. He ain't no good to you, Candy. An' he ain't no good to himself. Why'n't you shoot him, Candy?'

The old man squirmed uncomfortably. 'Well – hell! I had him so long. Had him since he was a pup. I herded sheep with him.' He said proudly, 'You wouldn't think it to look at him now, but he was the best damn sheep dog I ever seen.'

George said, 'I seen a guy in Weed that had an Airedale could herd sheep. Learned it from the other dogs.'

Carlson was not to be put off. 'Look, Candy. This ol' dog jus' suffers hisself all the time. If you was to take him out and shoot him right in the back of the head –' he leaned over and pointed, '– right there, why he'd never know what hit him.'

Candy looked about unhappily. 'No,' he said softly. 'No, I couldn't do that. I had 'im too long.'

'He don't have no fun,' Carlson insisted. 'And he stinks to beat hell. Tell you what. I'll shoot him for you. Then it won't be you that does it.'

Candy threw his legs off his bunk. He scratched the white stubble whiskers on his cheek nervously. 'I'm so used to him,' he said softly. 'I had him from a pup.'

'Well, you ain't bein' kind to him keepin' him alive,' said Carlson. 'Look, Slim's bitch got a litter right now. I bet Slim would give you one of them pups to raise up, wouldn't you, Slim?'

The skinner had been studying the old dog with his calm eyes. 'Yeah,' he said. 'You can have a pup if you want to.' He seemed to shake himself free for speech.

'Carl's right, Candy. That dog ain't no good to himself. I wisht somebody'd shoot me if I got old an' a cripple.'

Candy looked helplessly at him, for Slim's opinions were law. 'Maybe it'd hurt him,' he suggested. 'I don't mind takin' care of him.'

Part (a)

(a) From the extract, what do you learn about the character of Carlson?

Use evidence from the extract to support your answer.

(7)

Script 1 response to part a)

Band 2 – 4 marks

Relevant points about character

Carlson seems to be a bitter person who sounds jealous of the workers mainly Candy because Candy doesn't leave the ranch and has the dog for company. So he tries to sound reasonable by suggesting that he should kill the dog. He even brings Slim into the conversation and Slim's word is law.

Relevant supported point about character

His bitterness is shown in way he talks about the dog "That stink hangs around even after he's gone! Got no teeth," he said. "He's all stiff with rheumatism. He ain't no good to you, Candy. An' he ain't no good to himself!"

Relevant supported point about character

Examiner summary:

The candidate makes some interesting but underdeveloped points, 'trying to sound reasonable', 'bringing Slim into it'. The main focus is on bitterness and the candidate does offer some support for this in the last paragraph and an explanation in the first paragraph. There is some understanding of the character and some text reference.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some understanding of the character.• Some reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs development of the points about character (as seen in the extract) and to give more evidence from the extract to support the points.

Script 2 response to part a)

Band 3 – 6 marks

Relevant points about character

In the extract I have learned the Carlson does not care about what he says. He speaks his mind and he does care if what he says has any negative effects other the other characters.

Relevant supported point about character

In this extract he has a problem with Candy's dog. Carlson thinks that Candy's dog is old and useless and also that the dog "stinks". The word "stinks" is used repeatedly in the extract.

Relevant supported point about character

Carlson feels very negative about the dog. He says "He's all stiff with rheumatism" this shows that Carlson thinks that Candy's dog has an illness. Carlson also offers to "shoot" Candy's dog

Quotation with explanation

Section B continued He says "shoot him right in the back of the head" this shows that Carlson has no sympathy what so ever, he does not care about what he says.

Quotation
with
explanation

Carlson then offers to shoot Candy's dog for him. "I'll shoot him for you" this shows that he does not care about other people's feelings.
And he is desperately trying to get rid of Candy's dog.
The word "shoot" is also used repeatedly in the extract.

Examiner summary:

The candidate tends to focus on Carlson's negativity, particularly his attitude towards the dog. However the answer is structurally sound and has some fairly detailed and relevant explanations, e.g. 'he does not care about other people's feelings and he is desperately trying to get rid of Candy's dog'. The candidate shows a generally sound understanding of Carlson's character.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of the character.• Clear reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to bring together the valid but separate points about character to show 'sound understanding'.

Script 3 response to part a)

Band 3 – 7 marks

Relevant
supported
points with
explanation

2) The extract shows Carlson is very ~~aggressive~~ ~~obsessive~~ and cold ~~as~~ ~~shown~~ in his attitude towards ~~the dog~~ Candy's dog. "I can't stand him in here" - why isn't you shoot him". This ~~idea~~ is symbolic as Carlson never experienced someone so close to him and is opposed to close relationship Candy has with his dog, so Carlson has no feelings towards animals and ~~is therefore~~ ~~we~~ therefore dislike him. Carlson is also violent ~~as~~ ~~shown~~ when he says, "I'll shoot him for you. Then it won't be you that does it." This shows Carlson had no pity for the dog and ~~is~~ ~~would~~ would cross any line to remove the dog. Also shows people on the ranch were lonely so therefore had no respect for others and their beloved property. Carlson therefore sees the dog no other than a object being ~~to~~ thrown in a dump.

Relevant
supported
point with
explanation

point with
explanation

Examiner summary:

The response identifies a number of character points, 'obsessive', 'cold', 'violent', 'no pity' all of which are supported by textual reference and development 'this shows that Carlson...' The candidate's point about loneliness on the ranch is a little laboured and there is no requirement to reference the context in part (a) but the candidate does then try and bring this back around to Carlson in the extract. Despite this, there is certainly enough overall for a sound understanding to have been shown.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of the character.• Clear reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response has achieved maximum marks.

Part (b)

(b) Explain how the writer uses language to present Candy's feelings in the extract.

Use evidence from the extract to support your answer.

(7)

Script 1 response to part b)

Band 1 – 2 marks

Candy is the oldest worker on the ranch and has been crippled

(Section B continued) by a machine so he stays on the farm and his dog is also old and candy is very protective of it. Candy keeps saying the dog is fine such as I don't mind taking care of him.

Points about Candy

Points about Candy with evidence

Examiner summary:

The candidate makes some generalised points about Candy's character which are not rooted in the extract. These are valid points for a whole text understanding of Candy, but there is limited evidence for these in the extract and the candidate offers no supporting evidence. There is some credit for protective, with a supporting quote. However, this response is mainly focused on Candy and not on the language."

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

1	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas.• Limited reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to make valid points about Candy's feelings that are found in the extract and use these as the points of focus on the writer's use of language.

Script 2 response to part b)

Band 3 – 7 marks

Textual
reference
with
explanation

(b) • The word "Proudly" shows that Candy clearly loves his dog and he thinks that his dog is the best thing in the world.

Textual
reference
with
explanation

• The word "Unhappily" shows that Candy is not happy about what Carlson is saying. He got upset when Carlson suggested to "shoot" Candy's dog in the back of the head.

Textual
reference
with
explanation

• The word "Scratched" shows that Candy does not think it is a good idea to let Carlson kill his dog.

Textual
reference
with
explanation

(Section B continued) • The word "nervously" indicates that Candy is really scared about what is going to happen to his dog. He clearly does not want his only dog to die.

Textual
reference
with
explanation

• The word "helplessly" shows that even other people think the dog is not good for Candy.

The word "helplessly" is also used to show that Candy has no other options left and his dog has to go.

The writer uses different language techniques to show other character's feelings.

Examiner summary:

“Here the candidate has focused closely on the language, specifically the vocabulary. There is a sound understanding e.g. the explanations of ‘nervously’ and ‘helplessly’ towards the end of the answer are focused on interpreting the writer’s words.”

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas.• Clear reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response has achieved maximum marks.

Script 3 response to part b)

Band 3 – 7 marks

Supported point with explanation

b) Candy is very defensive and had the dog when he was a pup, "had him since he was a pup" This makes up for

(Section B continued) sympathetic for him as his only companion is the dog. Steinbeck uses repetition to further reinforce Candy's feelings towards the dog, "had him long". This implies the long-lasting companionship between them and that wasn't common in the 1930s as everyone was migrant. Steinbeck also uses adverbs to present Candy's feelings, "softly, proudly, helplessly" this further reinforces his feelings towards the dog. The writer uses them to make the readers feel sorry for Candy.

Supported point with explanation

Supported point with explanation

Examiner summary:

"This answer tackles the language and does have reference to Candy's feelings. The candidate does focus on the writer at work 'Steinbeck uses' repetition'. There is sound understanding."

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas.• Clear reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response has achieved maximum marks.

Part (c)

(c) In the extract, it is clear that Candy would be lonely without his dog.

Explain the importance of loneliness in **one other** part of the novel.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- which characters are lonely
- why they are lonely.

(10)

Script 1 response to part c)

Band 1 – 2 marks

Loneliness is an important part of the story near the beginning George tells Lennie that most people are only expect them this a foreshadowing of the other characters.

Identification of one other part

Reference to the importance of loneliness

Examiner summary:

"This is a short and very underdeveloped answer. But the candidate does identify a relevant part of the novel and also gets some credit for the link to other characters."

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novel• Basic reference to the novel's context.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs a more detailed and developed response to the bullet points in the question to help structure and develop the answer.

Script 2 response to part c)

Band 2 – 4 marks

Loneliness is important because there are many characters who are lonely.

Identification of which characters are lonely and why

An example of a character that is lonely is Crooks.

He is lonely because of the colour of his skin, and how he is different from other men on the ranch.

He is isolated from the rest of the ranch

(Section B continued) men because he feels like he does not belong there and fit in with the crowd.

Identification of which characters are lonely and why

The other character that is lonely in the novel is "Curley's Wife".

The signs of her loneliness is her husband "Curley" is not always with her, that's why she feels the need to go and play around with the ranch men even though they think she is disrespectful and rude.

To fill in the void of her loneliness she tries to seduce George.

Loneliness is also important because it leads to her death.

George is not lonely because he has his best friend Lennie. However he is going to be lonely when Lennie dies.

To conclude loneliness is important because it shows what effects being lonely has on people.

Examiner summary:

This answer focuses on Crooks, Curley's wife and George. The answer mainly focuses generally on why the characters are lonely rather than one other part of the novel. The best of these answers is the one concerning Crooks. Here there is enough on theme and context to achieve Band 2 i.e. the comments on Crook's isolation.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	4-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novel• Some reference to the novel's context.
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To achieve a higher mark: this response needs to meet the requirement of the question to focus on one other part of the novel. Although the candidate responds to the two bullets on characters who are lonely and why they are lonely, the response does not deal with them in one other part of the novel. If the candidate had chosen Section 4 where Crooks, Lennie, Candy and Curley's wife meet, and commented on, for example, two or three of the characters in that situation, then higher marks could have been awarded. Where the candidate doesn't meet the requirement to explain the theme in one other part of the novel, the examiners will select the most relevant part of the response.

Script 3 response to part c)

Band 3 – 10 marks

Details of character within context of novel

c) Loneliness is a common theme of *Misc and Men*. The character of Crooks experiences loneliness more than any other character. Crooks is very proud and intelligent as he keeps his room tidy as he has nothing else to do. Also he is intelligent so he is aware of his few rights as a black man. When Lennie approaches Crooks, he is on guard immediately and is defensive, as he is surprised that someone came to his room as he doesn't get any visitors. When Crooks says, "you ain't wanted in the bathroom and you ain't wanted in my room." Lennie asks, "why you ain't wanted" and he says, "Cause I'm black". This is significant as in 1930s prejudice was common and therefore "colored" men had few rights and were left out.

Identification of one other part

Reasons for loneliness

Further details of selected part with quotations

Quotation linked to context

Examiner summary:

In this answer the candidate focuses on the incident with Lennie in Curley's room. The start of the answer provides some personal context and the answer shows a sound understanding of the theme of loneliness and the link with prejudice and isolation.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally sound or sound understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novelGenerally sound or sound reference to the novel's context
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To achieve a higher mark: this response has achieved maximum marks