Introduction

I am so excited that you are going to read one of my favorite stories, Of Mice and Men. Before you begin reading, we are going to explore the characters you will meet, learn about the Great Depression and learn something about the History of Mental Illness. We will also come to know the author, John Steinbeck. You will have 5 class periods to complete this. Ready, Set, Web!

Tasks

This webquest will prepare you to begin reading the novella, Of Mice and Men by providing you with essential background information.

Process

1. Print out the attached word document. Answer the questions on this document and e-mail it to me or hand it in.2. Use the Literary Terms link to define the literary term novella. How is a novella different from a novel? Provide answer in word document.3. Use the Stories of the Great Depression link to learn about the Great Depression. Why would people have needed to move to find work? Explain.4. Use the Of Mice and Men Character List to learn about the characters from Of Mice and Men. Then, complete the character assessment, using the Of Mice and Men Character Quiz (you will need to print this out and hand it in).5. Use The History of Mental Illness link to learn about how people with mental illness have been treated over the years. Draw conclusions about whether a cognitively impaired person living in the 1930s would be able to live independently or would be dependent upon others.6. Use the John Steinbeck--Short Biography link to learn about John Steinbeck. Print the PDF and answer the multiple choice and open-ended questions. Hand in your work with the Microsoft Word Document. Congratulations! You’re ready to begin reading John Steinbeck’s Of Mice and Men.

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Steinbeck--Short Biography Reading Assessment.</td>
<td>Score of less than 70% on post-reading assessment.</td>
<td>Score of 70% to 80% on post-reading assessment.</td>
<td>Score of 80% to 90% on post-reading assessment.</td>
<td>Score of 90% or better on post-reading assessment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression writing prompt.</td>
<td>There is not relevant explanation as to why people would have been willing to move during the Great Depression.</td>
<td>You provide an explanation as to why people would have been willing to move during the Great Depression. It is not clear you have watched the video segment.</td>
<td>You provide an explanation as to why people would have been willing to move during the Great Depression. It is clear you have watched the video segment.</td>
<td>You provide a clear, concise explanation as to why people would have been willing to move during the Great Depression. It is clear you have watched the video segment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character Quiz</td>
<td>Score of less than 70% on character quiz.</td>
<td>Score of 70% to 80% on character quiz.</td>
<td>Score of 80% to 90% on character quiz.</td>
<td>Score of 90 % or better on character quiz.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congratulations on completing your Of Mice and Men Webquest! You are now ready to delve into John Steinbeck's novella. As you read, think about the characters you have learned about, how John Steinbeck's life experience during the Great Depression contributed to the story and how the story might have been different if the medications and therapy available today had been available to Lennie. Should Lennie be held accountable for his actions?

### Conclusion

This Of Mice and Men Webquest was created for students in grades 9 or 10 who are preparing to read Of Mice and Men. This webquest will enable students to: Understand the characters in the novella Understand and draw conclusions about the effects of the Great Depression Understand and draw conclusions about the treatment available to mentally disabled persons Understand how John Steinbeck's life experience came into play in the story of George and Lennie. Students have two multiple choice assessments and several open-ended questions. Higher order thinking skills include comparing and contrasting and drawing conclusions.

### Standards

#### Credits

#### Other