



Writing prompt: Is the allegory about society in *Of Mice and Men* specific to its setting, or can the symbolism in this novel be applied universally to the human experience? Use specific examples to compare present society with the novel's time period. Include textual evidence from the novel. **Word count:** 800-1200 words

	Content	Organization	Style	Conventions	Teacher Notes
A	Clear, effective thesis; <i>specific</i> examples used to support claims, 4-5 uses of textual evidence	Clear and focused paragraphing, sophisticated arrangement of ideas	Tone is formal and appropriate, word choice is purposeful, accurate, and compelling	Impressive control of spelling, grammar, and punctuation; textual evidence accurately cited; within word count	
B	Thesis present, general statements to support claims, 2-3 uses of textual evidence	Purposeful paragraphing, functional arrangement of ideas	Tone is appropriate, word choice is accurate	Sufficient control of spelling, grammar, and punctuation; textual evidence cited; few errors, within word count	
C	Vague or inconsistent thesis, little support for claims, textual evidence is irrelevant or missing	Paragraphs lack coherence or purpose, inconsistent control of ideas	Tone is inconsistent or informal, word choice is vague or occasionally inaccurate	Limited control of spelling, grammar, and punctuation; errors present; insufficient word count	
D	No discernible thesis, little no support for claims, no textual evidence provided	Minimal use of paragraphing, ideas organized haphazardly	Inappropriate tone, many inaccuracies with word usage	Minimal control of spelling, grammar, and punctuation; many errors; insufficient word count	

