**Theme Assignment: *Of Mice and Men***

This may be done individually, in pairs, or in groups of three or four. Only one copy is needed per group.

Names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a) Come up with three theme statements for *Of Mice and Men* by following the procedure below.

1. Think of one-word MAIN IDEAS in *Of Mice and Men* (like “dreams”).
2. Come up with a theme statement following the guideline below.

THEME in literature must be:

* stated formally, in a **complete sentence.**
* a **main idea** of the novel.
* a **general** statement (could apply to anyone’s life- no character names or events referred to in statement).

There is no ONE right way to state a theme; any number of different sentences may work equally well.

b) Give an example of evidence in the form of an event, character or situation that relates to this theme, and explain how it supports your theme.

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| **Example**  Main idea 1: Dreams  Theme Statement for topic 1:  Dreams are important, even when they do not come true, because they give one hope and direction. | Evidence from novel to support theme 1:  The characters who dream of buying their own farm feel more uplifted and optimistic because of this dream, even though they know it may not come true. |
| Main idea 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Theme Statement for topic 2: | Evidence from novel to support theme 2: |
| Main idea: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Theme Statement for topic 3: | Evidence from novel to support theme 3: |