

Of Mice and Men

Vocabulary with Definitions

Chapter One

1. **junctions**: noun; points of union; connections
2. **debris**: noun; fragments of something broken into pieces
3. **mottled**: adj.; spotted; marked with different colors
4. **recumbent**: adj.; lying back; resting or leaning
5. **morosely**: adv.; in a withdrawn or gloomy way; sadly; thoughtfully
6. **lumbered**: verb.; moved clumsily or heavily
7. **brusquely**: adv.; abruptly, angrily, or bluntly in manner or speech
8. **pantomime**: noun; an imitation of someone else's mannerisms
9. **contemplated**: verb; thought deeply about
10. **imperiously**: adv.; in a haughty, dictatorial, or overbearing manner
11. **anguished**: adj.; with extreme anxiety or torment; distressed
12. **yammered**: verb; howled or wailed as if in pain; whimpered

Chapter Two

1. **scoff** (at): verb; to make fun of; tease
2. **mollified**: adj.; soothed, appeased; calmed
3. **pugnacious**: adj.; belligerent or aggressive in nature; quarrelsome
4. **gingerly**: adv.; very carefully
5. **handy**: adj.; clever and useful
6. **ominously**: adv.; in a threatening way, indicating something bad is going to happen
7. **slough**: verb; to cast something off; shed
8. **derogatory**: adj.; critical or disparaging
9. **founced**: verb; moved in an exaggerated or angry way
10. **plaintively**: adv.; in a sorrowful or melancholy way; mournfully
11. **decisive**: adj.; able to make decisions quickly; firm
12. **complacently**: adv.; with self-satisfaction; smugly

Chapter Three

1. **derision**: noun; mocking scorn; ridicule
2. **lynch**: verb; to seize and punish someone believed to have committed a crime
3. **concealing**: verb; putting or keeping someone or something out of sight; hiding
4. **stride**: noun; a long step
5. **gnawing**: adj.; persistent and troubling
6. **entranced**: verb; in a state of fascination or wonder
7. **reprehensible**: adj.; highly unacceptable; deserving criticism
8. **bemused**: adj.; caused somebody to be confused or puzzled
9. **cowering**: verb; cringing or moving backward defensively in fear
10. **regarded**: verb; thought carefully about someone or something; judged
11. **wryly**: adv.; in an amusing and ironic way
12. **solemnly**: adv.; in a humorless or formal manner

Chapter Four

1. **mauled**: verb; beat, battered, or tore at a person or animal
2. **aloof**: adj.; uninvolved with people or events; remote
3. **meager**: adj.; unsatisfactorily small; unsatisfying
4. **liniment**: noun; a pain-relieving cream or ointment
5. **fawning**: adj.; attempting to please with flattery
6. **disarming**: adj.; charming; friendly or trusting
7. **scornful**: adj.; feeling or expressing great contempt for someone or something
8. **brutally**: adv.; in an unrelentingly harsh or cruel way
9. **indignation**: noun; anger about an unfairness or wrongdoing
10. **averted**: verb; turned away

11. **appraised**: verb; looked over; made a judgment about
12. **crestfallen**: adj.; downcast, disappointed, or humiliated

Chapter Five

1. **jeering**: (participle; adj.); shouting or laughing at someone or something in a mocking or hurtful way
2. **hurled**: verb; threw something with great force
3. **sullenly**: adv; in a hostile, unsociable, or morose way
4. **woe**: noun; grief or distress resulting from serious misfortune
5. **consoled**: verb; provided comfort to someone who is distressed or saddened
6. **contorted**: verb; greatly bent out of shape
7. **writhed**: verb; twisted or squirmed, especially from feelings of pain
8. **muffled**: adj.; wrapped or padded with material in order to stifle sound
9. **bewildered**: adj.; completely confused or puzzled
10. **pawed**: verb; struck at repeatedly; touched clumsily
11. **cringed**: verb; pulled away in a frightened manner

12. **sniveled**: verb; behaved in a whining or self-pitying way

Chapter Six

1. **lanced**: verb; pierced with a sharp instrument
2. **scudded**: verb; moved swiftly and smoothly
3. **disapprovingly**: adv.; with negative judgment based upon personal standards
4. **haunches**: noun; hip, buttocks, or upper thigh of an animal
5. **retorted**: verb; responded in a witty, angry, or insulting manner
6. **belligerently**: adv.; in a hostile, aggressive, or fighting manner
7. **woodenly**: adv.; in an emotionless, unresponsive manner; like wood
8. **monotonous**: adj., uninteresting or boring
9. **craftily**: adv.; in a clever or tricky way
10. **triumph**: noun; an act or occasion of winning or being victorious
11. **dutifully**: adv., in an obedient manner; without protest
12. **jarred**: verb; shook something abruptly

**Definitions and parts of speech of vocabulary words are given as the word is used in context.*