Year 9 Of Mice and Men - Homework Preparation Sheet

Complete the work sheet in preparation for your reading assessment. You will be allowed to use this sheet during the assessment so all the information must be relevant to the task and help you complete the assessment confidently and to the best of your ability. Remember, the purpose of this assessment is to improve your analytical writing, knowledge of social and historical context and responding to whole texts.

How is Curley's wife presented in Of Mice and Men?

Make a list of 8 synonyms to describe Curley's Wife character.	• Flirtatious
How does Steinbeck present Curley's Wife when we are first introduced to her - physical description/what she says/how she says it/how she acts Think about how you feel about her? Does Steinbeck portray her in a negative or positive way? Why do you think? (Purpose)	Key Quotations
Other characters opinions of Curley's Wife – George/Candy/Crooks/Slim What kind of language is used by the men to describe Curley's Wife? What does this reveal about the way women were viewed in 1930s America?	Key Quotations

Include key points from other parts of the story outside of the extract which link to Curley's Wife portrayal.	Does your view/opinion of Curley's Wife change throughout the novel as we learn more about her? How and Why?
Relevant Social and Historical Links to Curley's Wife. How were women treated in 1930s America?	Key Vocabulary to show your understanding of the social/historical context
	Isolation
	Oppression
	Marginalised
	Symbolism
	Incongruous

Success Criteria

- Write a thesis statement summarising Curley's wife's character and her purpose in the novella
- Choose 4/5 key moments involving Curley's wife (key moments from the extract and the novella as a whole)
- Use a range of quotations to support your ideas about Curley's wife
- Analyse the effect of language used by Steinbeck
- Use a range of ambitious vocabulary
- Make links to social and historical context what does Steinbeck highlight about society in 1930s America through Curley's wife?

Reminders:

- Always introduce your quotation by using a clear statement linking to the question.
- What Be clear is why you have chosen this quotation how does it link.
- How = Show your knowledge of word classes verb/adjective/simile etc.
- Why Dig deeper into the quotation by choosing a key word to analyse. Why has the writer used this word/phrase link to the bigger picture Social/Historical context.
- Write approximately 4/5 paragraphs. Include an introduction and conclusion

The extract is taken from Chapter 4 when Curley's Wife is talking to Crooks, Candy and Lennie, while the other ranch workers have gone into town, leaving them behind.

Using this extract and your knowledge of the rest of the novella answer the question below:

How is Curley's wife presented in Of Mice and Men?

Lennie watched her, fascinated; but Candy and Crooks were scowling down away from her eyes. Candy said, "Then if you know, why you want to ast us where Curley is at?"

She regarded them amusedly. "Funny thing," she said. "If I catch any one man, and he's alone, I get along fine with him. But just let two of the guys get together an' you won't talk. Jus' nothing but mad."

She dropped her fingers and put her hands on her hips. "You're all scared of each other, that's what. Ever' one of you's scared the rest is goin' to get something on you."

After a pause Crooks said, "Maybe you better go along to your own house now. We don't want no trouble."

"Well, I ain't giving you no trouble. Think I don't like to talk to somebody ever' once in a while? Think I like to stick in that house alla time?"

Candy laid the stump of his wrist on his knee and rubbed it gently with his hand. He said accusingly, "You gotta husban'. You got no call foolin' aroun' with other guys, causin' trouble. The girl flared up. "Sure I gotta husban'. You all seen him. Swell guy, ain't he? Spends all his time sayin' what he's gonna do to guys he don't like, and he don't like nobody. Think I'm gonna stay in that two-by-four house and listen how Curley's gonna lead with his left twice, and then bring in the ol' right cross? 'One-two,' he says. 'Jus' the ol' one-two an' he'll go down.'" She paused and her face lost its sullenness and grew interested. "Say- what happened to Curley's han'?"

There was an embarrassed silence. Candy stole a look at Lennie. Then he coughed. "Why... Curley... he got his han' caught in a machine, ma'am. Bust his han'."

She watched for a moment, and then she laughed. "Baloney! What you think you're sellin' me? Curley started som'pin' he didn' finish. Caught in a machine- baloney! Why, he ain't give nobody the good ol' one-two since he got his han' bust. Who bust him?"

Candy repeated sullenly, "Got it caught in a machine."

"Awright," she said contemptuously. "Awright, cover 'im up if ya wanta. Whatta I care? You bindle bums think you're so damn good. Whatta ya think I am, a kid? I tell ya I could of went with shows. Not jus' one, neither. An' a guy tol' me he could put me in pitchers...." She was breathless with indignation. "-Sat'iday night. Ever'body out doin' som'pin'. Ever'body! An' what am I doin'? Standin' here talkin' to a bunch of bindle stiffs- a stable buck an' a dum-dum and a lousy ol' sheep- an' likin' it because they ain't nobody else."

Lennie watched her, his mouth half open. Crooks had retired into the terrible protective dignity of the Negro. But a change came over old Candy. He stood up suddenly and knocked his nail keg over backward. "I had enough," he said angrily. "You ain't wanted here. We told you you ain't. An' I tell ya, you got floozy idears about what us guys amounts to. You ain't got sense enough in that chicken head to even see that we ain't stiffs. S'pose you get us canned. S'pose you do. You think we'll hit the highway an' look for another lousy two-bit job like this. You don't know that we got our own ranch to go to, an' our own house. We ain't got to stay here. We gotta house and chickens an' fruit trees an' a place a hunderd time prettier than this. An' we got fren's, that's what we got. Maybe there was a time when we was scared of gettin' canned, but we ain't no more. We got our own lan', and it's ours, an' we can go to it."

Curley's wife laughed at him. "Baloney," she said.