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| **Stage 1 – Desired Results** | |
| **Established Goals:** | |
| **Understandings:**  *Students will understand that …*   * Morals are influenced by society, culture, religion, etc. * Morals are accepted rules of behavior * What is moral or immoral changes depending on the circumstances * Everyone has different morals | **Essential Questions:**   * What are morals? * What influences your morals? * Who determines what is moral or immoral? * Why do morals change? |
| Students will know…   * The definition of the American Dream * Historical background of the novel *Of Mice and Men* * Basic geography of California * Where John Steinbeck got the idea of the novel from * What a migrant worker is | Students will be able to …  *(Language functions)*   * Justify a character’s actions towards another (e.g. justify George’s actions towards Lennie) * Analyze the author’s purpose (e.g. analyze why Steinbeck uses the character of Crooks or why he never names Curley’s wife) * Infer what George’s morals might have been * Analyze the deliberate choice of language the author uses |
| *Unit Vocabulary*  Morals, morality, values, immoral, evolve, moral principles, conscience, beliefs, migrant workers, ranchers, the Great Depression, the American Dream; imagery, foreshadowing, tone, mood, motifs | |
| **Stage 2 – Assessment Evidence** | |
| **Performance Tasks:**   * Write a persuasive essay on whether George did the right thing by killing Lennie * Have an annual debate with NNHS * Write a chapter that can be inserted within the text to show student’s understanding of point of view and the character | **Other Evidence:**   * Ticket to leave * Reading comprehension questions * Using unit vocabulary in practice * Weekly reading response journals * Write a paragraph describing your American Dream * Write a paragraph explaining connection between the poem “To a Mouse” and the plot |
| **Stage 3 – Learning Plan** | |
| **Learning Activities:**   * Fill out the activator worksheet: The American Dream * Listen to the poem “To a Mouse” by Robert Burns and discuss its meaning * Fill out the evidence chart to show how Lennie is compared to a child * Find examples of foreshadowing and imagery and explain them * Fill out character analysis charts * Literary circles * Research the role of women and blacks in America in the 1920s and compare and contrast it to the characters of Curley’s wife and Crooks | |
| **Materials and Resources:**   * *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck (NNHS, NSHS) * Recording of “To a Mouse” from www.soundcloud.com * “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson * “The First Murder” (NSHS) * Alternative resource: *Hunger Games* | |