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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?
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| 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
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| *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
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| **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
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| **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*
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