

Name_____Date_____Class_____

Literature and Composition I: *Of Mice and Men* essay assignment

This outline is worth a quiz grade. Your final draft of your essay is worth a test grade. This outline should be stapled to your final draft.

A. Below **write out** the topic of your essay (you may copy this from your assignment sheet):

B. Develop a **thesis statement**

- A thesis statement states the main idea and purpose of the essay.
- It explains to the reader what your essay is going to be about.
- It is stated in your first paragraph (introduction)
- It is the author's message about something. It must be written in a complete sentence.
- The rest of your essay will prove that this statement is true.
- Use the essay topic/question to help you formulate your thesis.

Write your thesis statement here:

C. **First paragraph (Introduction)**-----should be between 4-8 sentences long.

Must include:

1. The name of the novel (capitalized and in italics OR underlined) and the name of the author:

2. A brief summary of the story (In 2-3 sentences explain what happens in the novel, what the story is about):

3. Your thesis statement (copy it again from Part B of this outline):

D. Second Paragraph (First Body Paragraph)

Main idea (topic sentence of this paragraph)

Supporting idea #1

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #2

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #3

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

E. Third Paragraph (Second Body Paragraph)

Main idea (topic sentence of this paragraph)

Supporting idea #1

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #2

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #3

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

F. Fourth Paragraph (Third Body Paragraph)

Main idea (topic sentence of this paragraph)

Supporting idea #1

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #2

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

Supporting idea #3

Evidence from the novel that support your idea (copy a quote from the book and include a page #):

Your analysis of this evidence/explanation of what makes it relevant and in support of your topic sentence/thesis.

G. Fifth Paragraph (Conclusion)-----should be 3-5 sentences long.

Summarize the essay and restate your thesis.

DO NOT include any new ideas you did not discuss in the body of your essay.

REMEMBER, in literary analysis paper you:

---You should not be writing in first person (do not say “I think.....”, “My paper will be about....”, “I noticed.....”).

----You must include a thesis statement in your first paragraph so your reader knows exactly what the topic of your essay will be.

-----The information in each of your body paragraphs should help support your thesis.