Of Mice and Men

Essential Question: How accurately did John Steinbeck portray various social groups in his book “Of Mice and Men?”

After reading informational articles and texts, write a 3-4 page research based essay where you determine whether or not John Steinbeck accurately portrayed a specific social issue from the 1930s. Based on your research and research question, you must develop an original claim (thesis statement). Support your position with specific evidence from your research and from the text (use MLA formatting and embed your quotes). In addition to the novel, you must also use 4-5 other sources.

Students will select one of the following four social groups to research in context of the 1930’s and the Great Depression:

- Women
- African-Americans
- Elderly
- Mentally disabled

After reading the novel in class, students will then write an argument paper to support whether or not they believe Steinbeck accurately represented life for their chosen social group.

Students will be graded on:

- Data chart with complete notes using effective note taking strategies and in-text citations- **DUE end of class Monday, Nov. 10**
- DRAFT Works Cited page (MLA page)- **DUE end of class Monday, Nov. 10**
- Final paper
  - 3-4 typed pages
  - Double-spaced, 12 pt. TNR font
  - 1” margins
  - White paper with black ink
  - MLA formatted in-text citations with supporting evidence from both research and the “Of Mice and Men” text
  - Correctly formatted MLA Works Cited page

**DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2014** (stapled in order: final paper, Works Cited, data chart)

Schedule:

- Wednesday, Nov. 5- Research intro (questions, resources, Works Cited) in the library
- Thursday, Nov. 6- Research cont’d. (note taking/plagiarism and in-text citations) in the library
- Friday, Nov. 7- Research in computer lab
- Monday, Nov. 10- Research in computer lab (data chart and draft Works Cited due)
- Monday, Nov. 17- Rough draft of paper due for peer editing in class
- Wednesday, Nov. 19- MLA paper and Works Cited formatting in the library
- Friday, Nov. 21- DUE DATE!!!!
Please see the Class Project page on the library website for information on the page and links to pre-selected websites. [http://appohigh.org/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=211248&id=4](http://appohigh.org/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=211248&id=4)

If accessing the databases from home, use the following log in information:

Username: udlibsearch
Password: homeaccess

- **Issues with computers, disks, Internet, printers, etc. are not excusable reasons for late work.** Computers and printers are available during all lunches and after school by appointment. The public libraries in the area (Appoquinimink and Corbit-Calloway) also have computers for public use. Please plan ahead if you need to access these resources.

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**CSET Paragraph Structure:**

C= Claim (topic sentence...what will the paragraph be about?)

S= Set-up (lead into/give context for your evidence...where does it come from?)

E= Evidence (specific, research based details to support your claim...should be several sentences)

T= Tie-in (explain what the evidence means related to the claim...so what?)