

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Challenges and Consequences: Scenes 4 and 5 of 'Of Mice and Men'

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Curley's character is marked by his insecurity, jealousy, and aggressiveness. In Scene 4, his confrontation with Lennie reflects his need to assert dominance and control. His behavior exacerbates tensions among the ranch workers, setting the stage for the tragic events of Scene 5.
2. The barn in "Of Mice and Men" symbolizes both the characters' dreams and the harsh reality they face. It serves as the backdrop for the pivotal events in Scene 5, highlighting the contrast between the characters' aspirations and the tragic outcome.
3. George faces a moral dilemma in the aftermath of the events in Scene 5. His choices reflect his care for Lennie and the difficult decision to protect him from further suffering. This reveals the depth of their friendship and the challenges they face.
4. The theme of fate in "Of Mice and Men" is open to interpretation. While the tragic events in Scenes 4 and 5 may seem inevitable due to the characters' circumstances and personalities, one could argue that different choices or interventions could have altered the course of events.

