

Sample R Q13

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'Of mice and men' was set in 1930's America. In 1929, ~~the~~ the Wall street crash happened, plummeting the country into the Great Depression. People across America lost everything, their homes, their jobs, and all their money.

In this ~~ex~~ essay, I am going to explain why the treatment Crooks receives from other ~~characters~~ characters in the novel, Of mice and men, is important.

To try and make money, migrants ^{travelled} ~~travelled~~ from all around, trying to find work on the ranches. Most of them headed for Calafornia, where the book is set. As well as all of this, 1930's

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America was extremely segregated. They separated Blacks from whites wherever possible, and attitudes between races were very poor. America was also an extremely sexist country in^{the} 1930s.

Crooks is segregated against because he is black, working on a ranch full of white men.

"I ain't wanted in the They say I stink."

The quote shows the attitudes that the white men in the bunk house have towards Crooks "They say I stink!"

In 1930's America, blacks were ~~ex~~ segregated against and viewed as the second class race, by many people.

~~Like~~ The other men on the ranch have been around ~~a~~ racist attitudes the whole of their lives and probably don't know any different. ^{the same as people living in 1930's America.}

The other ranch workers don't want him in the bunkhouse because they think black people 'stink'. Crooks being segregated against, and the other white ranch workers holding racist

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views about him is important in the novel, as it reflects the American society, during the time when the book was set. (1930's).

On the contrast, some characters treat the stable buck reasonably well. This is important as it shows that even in a racist society, some people still rose above the segregation, and ignored the colour of a man's skin. This represents a minority of people in 1930's America.

"Nothing - I seen ... could jus' come in an' set"

Lennie doesn't judge Crooks by his race, and treats him like any other man.

"I thought ... set." shows that Lennie doesn't think it's abnormal for a white man to socialize with a black man.

This is an unusual attitude in 1930's America.

Curtley's wife is nasty to Crooks because it's the only person she has power over.

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"Well, you keep..... up on a tree ~~it~~ so easy it ain't even funny!"

Curley's wife uses racism to claim power and threaten Crooks. This is because she has no power over anyone else. In 1930's America, the society was sexist, as well as racist. Women were treated as 2nd class ~~people~~ people, and were only there to stay at home, to do cooking and the house work, and as a sex symbol. Because Curley's wife has no power on the ranch, as she's the only female, she is desperate to hold power over Crooks. So, when the opportunity ~~arises~~ arises to belittle him, she takes it and pushes it as far as she can - she threatens to hang him. The lynching of Black people happened frequently in 1930's America. The way Curley's wife treats Crooks is important in the novel as it shows just how badly black people were treated in 1930's America.

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Crooks dreams of having a peice of land are crushed when Culey's wife reminds him how racist America was.

"Member what I said no place like that."

Before Culey's wife ~~to~~ threatens him,

Crooks believes he can share George and Lennie's dream and get some land for ~~for~~ themselves.

This is very important in the novel because in 1930's America, dreams were a significant part of peoples lives.

Because no one had any money, or jobs, or homes, ~~At~~ the American people living in the Great Depression hoped they would get ~~their own~~ the 'American Dream.' This was

having a peice of land for your self, to have no boss and to be happy. Many people got through the depression only because they believed that one day they might get the American dream. The fact that Crook's American dream was crushed, ~~shows how~~ by Culey's wife's threat, shows how easily dreams were

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ruined. This reflects life in the 1930's in America. Also the title of the ~~B~~ novel, 'Of mice and men' came from a poem write by a scottish poet. The meaning of the poem was that ~~the~~ the dreams of men are as significant to the world as the dreams of mice. This means that dreaming is worthless and pointless.

This reflects ~~the~~ Crooks's ~~opener~~ opinion of his dream, after he is reminded of his segregated life.

Because of all this, the way curley's wife treats Crooks is extremely important to the Novel.

From this essay, you can tell how important ~~the~~ ^{way the} characters treat Crooks is to the novel. It reflects the racist community of 1930's america, the ~~sexist~~ sexist opinions of 1930's America and the importance of dreams to the ~~people~~ characters in the Novel and all the people living through the Great Depression; the time ~~where~~ when the book was set, 1930's America.

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS