

GCSE English
5EH2H/01

Of Mice and Men
Higher Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at www.edexcel.com

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

Extract taken from Section 3.

'Well, I can't stand him in here,' said Carlson. 'That stink hangs around even after he's gone.' He walked over with his heavy-legged stride and looked down at the dog. 'Got no teeth,' he said. 'He's all stiff with rheumatism. He ain't no good to you, Candy. An' he ain't no good to himself. Why'n't you shoot him, Candy?'

The old man squirmed uncomfortably. 'Well – hell! I had him so long. Had him since he was a pup. I herded sheep with him.' He said proudly, 'You wouldn't think it to look at him now, but he was the best damn sheep dog I ever seen.'

George said, 'I seen a guy in Weed that had an Airedale could herd sheep. Learned it from the other dogs.'

Carlson was not to be put off. 'Look, Candy. This ol' dog jus' suffers hisself all the time. If you was to take him out and shoot him right in the back of the head –' he leaned over and pointed, '– right there, why he'd never know what hit him.'

Candy looked about unhappily. 'No,' he said softly. 'No, I couldn't do that. I had 'im too long.'

'He don't have no fun,' Carlson insisted. 'And he stinks to beat hell. Tell you what. I'll shoot him for you. Then it won't be you that does it.'

Candy threw his legs off his bunk. He scratched the white stubble whiskers on his cheek nervously. 'I'm so used to him,' he said softly. 'I had him from a pup.'

'Well, you ain't bein' kind to him keepin' him alive,' said Carlson. 'Look, Slim's bitch got a litter right now. I bet Slim would give you one of them pups to raise up, wouldn't you, Slim?'

The skinner had been studying the old dog with his calm eyes. 'Yeah,' he said. 'You can have a pup if you want to.' He seemed to shake himself free for speech.

'Carl's right, Candy. That dog ain't no good to himself. I wisht somebody'd shoot me if I got old an' a cripple.'

Candy looked helplessly at him, for Slim's opinions were law. 'Maybe it'd hurt him,' he suggested. 'I don't mind takin' care of him.'

Part (a)

(a) Explain how the writer presents the character of Carlson in the extract.

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

(7)

Script 1 response to part a)

Band 1 – 1 mark

Valid supported points with explanation

a) In this extract we see Carlson as a rash and reckless person "why'n't you shoot him Candy?" he is telling Candy to kill his pet which is like a best friend to Candy. This shows how rash and reckless Carlson is, he jumps straight to the conclusion of killing the dog and that is how Steinbeck shows Carlson in this extract. Steinbeck uses cruel and harsh language to show the character of Carlson "shoot him right in the head" and "why'n't you shoot him, Candy?" it shows how cruel and mean Carlson is and that he just wants to shoot the dog for fun.

Supported points

Examiner Summary:

The points that Carlson is 'cruel', 'mean' and 'just wants to shoot the dog' lack development; Carlson is 'rash' and 'reckless', but there is nothing to suggest that his desire to kill the dog is sudden.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

1	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally sound or sound understanding of the character.• Clear reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response needs to make more valid points about the character in the extract and fully develop and support the points made.

Script 2 response to part a)

Band 3 – 6 marks

Valid supported points with explanation

7ca) - from this extract we learn that ~~Carlson~~ ^{Carlson} is a persistent person. Carlson was not to be put off; this shows that Carlson is desperate to kill the dog, and won't change the subject until he gets ~~the~~ what he wants. This shows he is also very persistently reminding people what he thinks, and his opinion.

Steinbeck shows that Carlson is a ~~very~~ humane person and doesn't like to see things suffer. "Ah" he ^{ain't} ~~isn't~~ no good to himself. This shows Carlson is feels sorry for the dog, and wants to put it out of its misery, and not just thinking about it from his personal view, but how the dogs ~~is~~ view. This also shows that Carlson has a sensitive side, and doesn't want the dog to feel any more pain, and is trying to help it.

Valid supported points with explanation

Supported points

(Section B continued) Another thing we learn about Carlson is that he ~~has had~~ experience could of had experience before "If you were to take him out and shoot him right in the back of the head -" he leaned over and pointed "right there, why he'd never know what hit him" This shows that a Carlson knows where to shoot him so I want know about it, this shows he could of had person experience in putting animals down, using the same ~~method~~ methods.

Finally from this extract we learn that Carlson is a big person "He walked ~~over~~ with his heavily legged stride", the adjective "heavy", shows that Carlson, is a big person, and this is described about his walk, which could suggest that he is tired as well, and is walking very heavy, because of how ~~enormous~~ he tired he is.

Supported points

Examiner summary:

The perceptive points about Carlson: 'persistent', has a 'sensitive side' and 'humane' are supported at some length; less is made of the observations that Carlson is a 'big person' and 'heavy'..

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of the character.• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

This is a top band response and as such shows a perceptive understanding of the character. To achieve maximum marks, the response could develop more fully the points made about Carlson's character, such as those noted in the examiner summary.

Script 3 response to part a)

Band 3 – 7 marks

References to context are not required

a) Immediately, we can see Carlson is one of the stronger men on the ranch. During the Depression, stronger people were more fit to survive, and people had less regard for the weak. The fact that Carlson wants to shoot Candy's dog because he "can't stand him in here" and "that stink hangs around", shows the ~~evidence~~^{reader} that Carlson wants to shoot the dog for his own convenience, revealing his view that the weak are a disadvantage to the strong, such as himself. None of the men in the bunkhouse stand up for Candy, suggesting once again that Carlson is one of the stronger men. However, in the second half of the extract, we can see that, even though he wants to shoot the dog, he is not a cruel person. He attempts to reassure Candy by telling him the dog would "never know what hit him". He also offers to shoot the dog himself, in an effort to spare

Valid supported points with explanation

Further development

Valid supported points

(Section B continued) Candy some pain. The fact that he tries to comfort Candy in this way shows that he is not an unkind person; he is just doing what is necessary in that harsh environment.

Further development

Examiner Summary:

The observation that Carlson is 'strong' is perceptive, referencing Carlson's behaviour and the reactions of the other men. This point is supported at some length. 'Not cruel' and 'doing what is necessary' are also valid, well supported, perceptive observations.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of the character.• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response has achieved maximum marks.

Part (b)

(b) Comment on how language is used to present Candy's feelings in the extract.

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

(7)

Script 1 response to part b)

Band 2 – 4 marks

B). In this extract we know that Candy is very much put on the spot and stuck with a decision which he seriously does not want to do, kill his dog. "The old man squirmed uncomfortably" this shows he doesn't even want to think what it would be like without his dog and best friend around.

Valid supported point with explanation

Valid supported point with explanation

We know that Candy is against killing his dog but is afraid to admit it. "I had him so long... I ever seen" It is as if he is telling the others the good things about the dog so they all change their mind. In this extract Candy is also very nervous "He scratched the... nervously" Candy has the nervous twitch that he does throughout the book "scratching his stubble, and in this part he does it "nervously" this shows that Candy is put under pressure to agree to kill the dog which in the end he agrees to. He is shown through vocabulary and language used "unhappily", "Candy threw his legs off the bunk" this shows how unhappy Candy is about the situation and saying he "Trew" shows how shocked and angry Candy really is about the idea of killing his best friend (dog). We also know that Candy is looking for a bit of help in this argument "Candy looked helplessly at him; Slim's opinions were law" this shows that he is in need for help and has no confidence to stand up to Carlson and say no.

Valid supported point with explanation although somewhat repetitive

Valid supported point although explanation is a little stretched

Valid supported point with explanation

Examiner Summary:

Quotations relating to Candy's discomfort are relevant: 'uncomfortably', 'nervously', 'unhappily'. 'Helplessly' is also relevant, in showing how Candy looks to Slim.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thorough understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas to the reader.• Sustained reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response is thorough but could be more perceptive and assured in the comments made about the language.

Script 2 response to part b)

Band 2 – 5 marks

Valid supported point with explanation

(7b) the language in this extract shows that Candy feels uncomfortable about talking about his dog "Squegment uncomfortably", ~~the~~ the adverb "uncomfortably", shows that Candy is uncomfortable, about talking about his dog, which shows he cares a lot about him, and that he knew they would talk about about it at one point, but doesn't want to.

(Section B continued) from this extract the language shows that Candy is nervous "He scratched the white stubble whistles on his cheek nervously", this shows that he is nervous, because he is ~~scratching~~ scratching, showing he doesn't know what to do, and that he is getting nervous, and he knows that he can't do much more to protect his dog.

Valid supported point with explanation although somewhat repetitive

Valid supported point with explanation although somewhat repetitive

Finally from this extract we learn that Candy felt lonely, and helpless. "Candy looked ~~helpless~~ helplessly." This shows that Candy didn't know what to do, and couldn't stand up for himself, and was waiting for someone to help him. This shows he's helpless, and relies on other people to fight his battles, but no one was willing to do so.

Examiner Summary:

This response focuses on vocabulary: 'uncomfortably', 'nervously' and 'helplessly'. These are discussed thoroughly and supported with sustained evidence from the extract..

Band this answer achieve in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thorough understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas to the reader.• Sustained reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

The response is very thorough in its discussions of the vocabulary choices, but the points are fairly literal and so fall short of perceptive and band 5.

Script 3 response to part b)

Band 3 – 7 marks

b) In the beginning of the extract, we can instantly see that Candy is very uneasy in the conversation. Steinbeck's use of verbs and adverbs ~~to describe~~ such as "squirmed uncomfortably" to describe Candy's movement show the reader ~~that~~ Candy is ~~highly~~ discomfort. However, at this point he still feels that he might save his dog, announcing "proudly" that his dog was an incredible sheepdog. Despite this, Candy begins to get worn down by Carlson's persistence. We can see from Steinbeck's repetition of "softly" to describe Candy's speech that he is beginning to lose hope that he can save his dog from being killed. At the end of the extract, he looks "helplessly" at Slim, showing that ultimately he realises there is no hope for his dog, and his helplessness ~~shows~~ suggests that this realisation has deeply upset him, as Candy had him "from a pup". This reveals to the reader Candy's fear of losing his best friend on the ranch, and the loneliness which will inevitably follow his death.

Valid supported point with explanation

Further development

Valid supported point with explanation. Perceptive.

Valid supported point with explanation. Perceptive.

Further development

Examiner Summary:

References to the use of language are perceptive e.g. the discussion of 'softly' indicating Candy losing hope and 'helplessly' revealing the depth of Candy's feelings about his dog. All points are fully supported and developed.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language to present ideas to the reader• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response has achieved maximum marks

Part (c)

(c) In the extract, it is clear that Candy would be lonely without his dog.

Explore the significance of loneliness in **one other** part of the novel.

You **must** refer to the context of the novel in your answer.

(10)

Script 1 response to part c)

Band 3 – 4 marks

Generalised references to context with some links to the theme within the novel

Unclear reference to other part of the novel

Reference to context linked to theme

c). At this point in America (1930s) there are many ~~historical~~ things going on. The great depression, dust bowl, The Jim Crow laws and Racism (kkk). These are all portrayed in the book. Most of these lead to some type of loneliness. And another example of loneliness in another part of the book is with Crooks. For Crooks he has nothing, he gets beaten and frowned upon because simple he is black. This has led to the loneliness of Crooks. Racism in 1930s was very bad, with the Jim Crow laws and kkk this didn't exactly help loneliness for African Americans and also Crooks. Steinbeck shows loneliness to every character by the end of the book in many different ways. For Crooks it is because he is black and looked down upon.

reference to other part of the novel

and in the book where Lennie enters Crooks' territory, Crooks uses his power (knowledge in this context) against Lennie, Crooks also gets very defensive about Lennie coming into his room (shed), this is because Crooks knows where he stands and that if he isn't allowed in a white man's room then a white man isn't allowed in his.

Valid point with explanation

Examiner Summary:

This response begins with general reference to social/historical events. The required other part of the novel is not identified until the last seven lines of the answer. The most relevant context reference is rooted in the text: 'the Jim Crow laws..didn't..help loneliness for african americans and Crooks.' The candidate identifies Crooks, and deals briefly with racism and loneliness before referring to the other part of the novel: Lennie entering Crooks' room and being 'very defensive'. The last seven lines of the response are the most relevant.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

2	4-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thorough understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novel• Sustained reference to the novel's context
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response needs to clearly identify the selected 'one other part' of the novel from the outset and focus on this selected part in answering the question.

Script 2 response to part c)

Band 3 – 10 marks

reference
to other
part of
the novel

(7.) Another part of the play that shows loneliness is when Lennie talks to Crooks. That shows loneliness because Crooks isn't used to talking to people, because he's the only black man, and he starts to wind Lennie up, and ~~meets~~ upsets him. This is linked to the history of the 1930's because of the segregation, Crooks, never usually talked to people/white people, and didn't know how Lennie would react, this also shows how hard black experiences with white people, and reacts badly/horrible to Lennie, and upsets him.

Valid supported
points with
explanation
including reference
to context

loneliness is also significant when Crooks talks to Lennie, because he talks about his dream, about every one being equal, and starts to talk about family, this is significant, because it shows that Crooks thinks about this a lot, and misses his family, and the times when he played with white people when he was a boy, and them being nice to him, this shows that he wants things to go back to the way they worked then, and is upset about his rights, because during the time of mize and men was set, black people had no rights, and they got mixed by white people, and segregated from them, which Crooks doesn't want any more, showing he's had enough of being lonely.

Valid points with explanation and development

Valid points with explanation related to context and theme

Another reason why it's significant is because it brings out Crooks's anger and passion about the subject of loneliness, showing how strongly against he is, and how the time alone has affected him, and that he has turned cold, and judges all white people because he knows them, being horrible to them as well.

Valid points with explanation and development

Examiner Summary:

The candidate identifies an apt 'other part of the novel' and focuses on it throughout the response. The points about Crooks and Lennie are related to segregation but also loneliness and Crooks' nostalgia for his past 'played with white people'. The response also develops the theme of loneliness further with reference to anger and Crooks having 'turned cold' and that he 'judges white people'

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novel• Discriminating reference to the novel's context
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response has achieved maximum marks.

Script 3 response to part c)

Identification of one other part of the novel

Band 3 – 10 marks

c) The theme of loneliness is very significant in Section 4 during Lennie's evening with Crooks. This is the first time that Crooks has been shown in depth in the novel, and this section reveals a lot about his character. When Lennie first speaks to Crooks, his reaction is relatively hostile, insisting that Lennie cannot come into his room as nobody ever goes in there. Not only does this reflect his loneliness and segregation from the other ranch hands, but also the racist views of the time. As Crooks is black and disabled, he is viewed as less equal in society, and so is not allowed to sleep in the bunkhouse with the other workers. This loneliness has led Crooks to become a bitter and angry person, which is why at first he was unwilling to let Lennie into his room.

Later in this section, Curley's wife also enters the barn, once again asking if anyone has seen Curley. However, when the men say they haven't, she reveals that she knows he has gone to a brothel with the other men. The fact that she came to ask the men something she already knew the answer to suggests that she too is incredibly lonely and

This section covers valid points, explained with reference to the context and theme. Perceptive

Links back to the question

Another example taken from within the same named section

Valid point with explanation and development. Perceptive

(Section B continued) desperate for company.

After the men become unwilling to speak to her, she says to them "do you think I like to stick in their house all time?" This also reflects her loneliness, as she is in an unloving marriage and Curley treats her more as a possession than his wife, and therefore doesn't spend any time with her.

This is unsurprising to the reader - as the only female in a male-dominated environment, she lacks company. Her desire for attention leads the men to see her as flirtatious and a threat, further increasing her loneliness.

Valid point with explanation and development. Includes a direct quotation. Perceptive

Examiner Summary:

This candidate has selected a large section of the novel as the 'one other part': section 4. The references to the context are discriminating, being linked into the discussion of the text and supporting the points about loneliness. The interpretation of the behaviour of both characters shows a perceptive understanding e.g. Curley's wife's behaviour further increasing her loneliness.

Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of theme and its importance in one other part of the novel• Discriminating reference to the novel's context
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To achieve a higher mark:

This response has achieved maximum marks.