*Of Mice & Men* Chapter 3 Discussion Questions Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please be prepared to discuss these questions with your group on Friday, October 3**

1. Describe Slim and George’s conversation on pages 39 - 41: What makes George stop playing tricks on Lennie? What does this tell you about their relationship?
2. On pages 42-43 Lennie sneaks his pup into the Bunkhouse, just like he was sneaky about having a mouse in his pocket in chapter one. Make a prediction – why does Steinbeck continue to show how Lennie likes to touch soft things?
3. How can Carlson be characterized? Why does he want to kill Candy’s (the swamper) dog so badly? (p. 44-48)
4. On pages 48 – 49, Steinbeck’s narration continues to comment on the light and the sound in the room: “It was silent outside. Carlson’s footsteps died away. The silence came into the room. And the silence lasted” (p. 48).

What role does silence play in this scene? What effect does it have on the scene?

1. On page 51 there’s a lot of talk about Curley’s Wife:

*Whit says, “Well, stick around an’ keep your eyes open. You’ll see plenty…She got the eye goin’ all the time on everybody.”*

*George says, “She’s gonna make a mess. They’s gonna be a bad mess about her. She’s a jail bait all set on the trigger.”*

What do these guys mean? Make a prediction – what kind of trouble might Curley’s wife get into? With whom? How?

1. How does the mood change on pages 56 – 57 when Lennie brings up their dream? Find 2 quotes from the text that provide evidence for your answer.

How is Candy now involved in their dream?

1. In chapter 2 Curley is characterized as a tough guy who people don’t mess with because he likes to fight and he’s the bosses’ son. How does this change on page 62? Explain the power dynamics (who has the power) between Curley, Slim, Carlson, and Candy.
2. Describe the conflict at the end of the chapter. How does this connect back to chapter 2 when George and Lennie first meet Curley?