



Revision Questions for 'Sunlight on Grass' Anthology

Character:

1. How would you describe Carla Carter in 'My Polish Teacher's Tie'?
2. What does Carla Carter learn during the course of the story in 'My Polish Teacher's Tie'?
3. How would you describe Eveline (the narrator) in 'When the Wasps Drowned'?
4. At the end of the story, 'When the Wasps Drowned', how do you feel about Eveline, the narrator?
5. Why does the writer include the character of Jim in 'Compass and Torch'?
6. Why isn't the boy given a name in 'Compass and Torch'?
7. How would you describe the narrator in '100% Perfect Girl'? A hopeless romantic, or pathetic?
8. Why doesn't the narrator speak to the girl in '100% Perfect Girl'?
9. Why does the writer include the characters of Sandra and Kerry in 'The Darkness Out There', why not just Sandra, the narrator?
10. What is the effect on the reader of the character of Mrs Rutter being so different at the start of the story to the end of 'The Darkness Out There'?
11. How is the reader meant to feel about Marimuthu in 'Anil'?
12. What is the purpose of presenting Anil's father, Ragunathan, as he is in 'Anil'?
13. How is the reader meant to feel about the narrator's marriage in 'Something Old, Something New': hopeful or fearful for their future together?
14. How is the narrator presented in 'Something Old, Something New'?
15. Which character is easiest for you to relate to and why?

Themes:

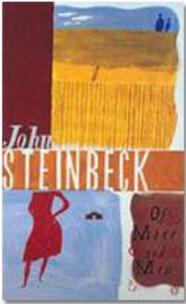
1. Which stories present the theme of family and what do they say about it?
2. Which stories explore the theme of truth and lies and what do they want the reader to understand?
3. How is the theme of guilt explored in two of the stories?
4. Which stories explore marital relationships and how do they present them?
5. Which stories explore culture and what do they want the reader to understand or explore?
6. Which stories present children as the main characters and why? What lessons do the children learn?
7. Which stories explore the impact of hopes and dreams?
8. How is the theme of innocence explored in the stories?
9. Which stories explore the theme of growing up?
10. How is the theme of disappointment explored in the stories?

Structure:

1. Which stories are written non-chronologically? Why?
2. Which stories are told chronologically? Why?
3. Which method of story-telling (chronological and non-chronological) do you think is most effective and why?
4. Which stories use a third person limited voice narrative voice? Why?
5. Which stories use a third person omniscient narrative voice? Why?
6. Which style of narration (limited or omniscient) do you think is the most effective? Why?
7. Which stories contain stories within the story? Why have the writers done this?
8. Which story has the most intriguing or engaging opening and why?
9. Which story has the most interesting ending and why?
10. Which writers manipulate paragraph structures to emphasise key ideas and/or themes? What is the impact of this on the reader?

Writer's Craft:

1. Which stories use symbolism to help convey their ideas/character/themes? Why?
2. What symbols are used in the stories?
3. Which writer's use figurative language in their stories and what effect does it have on the reader?
4. Which writers use elements of fairy tales and/or folklore in their stories and to what effect?
5. Which stories use metaphors? Effect?
6. How do the writers present their characters to the reader? Compare the techniques used.
7. Which stories use short simple sentences for effect? What effect do they have on the reader?
8. Which writer's include other languages in their stories? Why?
9. Which writer's describe their characters in detail? Why?
10. Which writer creates the most believable setting for their story? What techniques do they use and how does the reader react to them?



'Of Mice and Men' Revision Questions

Character:

1. What is Lennie a symbol of?
2. How does the reader feel about Lennie at the end of the novel?
3. Does the reader blame Lennie for anything at the end of the novel? Why?
4. What is George a symbol of?
5. How does the reader feel about George at the end of the novel?
6. Does the reader blame George for anything at the end of the novel? Why?
7. What does Slim represent in the novel?
8. How do the other men on the ranch react to and treat Slim? Why is this significant?
9. Why does Steinbeck include the character of Slim in the story?
10. What is the reader meant to learn from Slim in the novel?
11. What does Curley's Wife represent?
12. Why is Curley's Wife an important character in the story?
13. What does Curley represent?
14. Is he an important character in the story? Why?
15. Why is Candy's dog included in the story?
16. Why is Candy included in the story?
17. What function does Carlson play in the novel?
18. Is Crooks an important character in the story? Why?
19. How is the reader meant to feel about Crooks?
20. Which character do you think is most important in the novel as a whole? Why?

Themes:

1. How is theme of prejudice explored in the novel? What types of prejudice are there?
2. Why has Steinbeck included the theme of prejudice in the novel?
3. Who is a victim of prejudice in the novel?
4. What is 'the American Dream'? Why is it an important theme in the novel?
5. Who is looking for the American Dream?
6. What happens to dreams in the novel?
7. Who is lonely in the novel and for what reasons?
8. How does the reader feel about the characters that are lonely?
9. Who has friends in the novel? Why is this interesting?
10. Why does Steinbeck explore the theme of friendship in the novel? (link to historical context)

Context:

1. Why is the setting of the novel relevant to the time it was written in?
2. Why has Steinbeck written about a common experience? Who is he aiming his novel at?
3. What is Curley's Wife a stereotype of?
4. Would a reader in Steinbeck's time have been shocked at the portrayal of Crooks? Why?
5. Would a reader in Steinbeck's time have been shocked at the portrayal of Candy? Why?
6. Would a reader in Steinbeck's time have been shocked at what happens to Lennie at the end? Why?

Writer's Craft:

1. Why does Steinbeck use foreshadowing so much in the novel?
2. Why does Steinbeck describe characters in so much detail when we first meet them?
3. Why does Steinbeck use animal imagery in the novel?
4. Why are the adverbs used to describe how characters speak and move so important? Why has Steinbeck done this?
5. Why does Steinbeck describe nature in so much detail?
6. Why has Steinbeck created a novel that is cyclical (it starts and finishes in the same location)? What effect does this have on the reader?
7. Why does Steinbeck repeat some images throughout the novel? E.g. 'flopping like a fish'