

Cycle 4 Homework

Subject: English



This cycle you are studying: *Of Mice and Men* and creative writing

Year 9

	Week of cycle
Descriptive writing techniques 1	1
Descriptive writing techniques 2	2
Character	3
Setting	4
Setting	5
Creative writing activity	6
Independent revision	7
Independent revision	8

Rationale for home work this term:

- To consolidate in class learning and terminology
- To be able to build up analytical skills
- To develop your creative response

Expectations

- Complete 6 homework tasks per cycle (or the equivalent time if doing a longer project).
- Complete 2 weeks of revision-based homework per cycle ready for week 8.
- Your homework will be marked by a mix of peer, self and teacher assessment.
- It must be handed in on the due date or you will receive an automatic 1 hour detention.

Name _____

Teacher _____

Task 1: Descriptive writing techniques - ACOMPASS

Due: _____

Success criteria:

- Complete the empty boxes with both a definition of the term and an example

Assessment method:

- Self/peer assessment during starter /16

Term	Definition	Example
Adjectives		
Colour		
Onomatopoeia		
Metaphor		
Personification		
Adverbs		
Simile		
Senses		

Task 2: Descriptive writing techniques – Identifying ACOMPASS

Due: _____

Success criteria:

- Identify the ACOMPASS techniques in the extract by labelling them
- Explain the effect of three techniques

Assessment method:

- Self/peer assessment during starter

A girl was standing there looking in. She had full, rouged lips and wide-spaced eyes, heavily made up. Her fingernails were red. Her hair hung in little rolled clusters, like sausages. She wore a cotton house dress and red mules, on the insteps of which were little bouquets of red ostrich feathers. ‘I’m lookin’ for Curley,’ she said. Her voice had a nasal, brittle quality. George looked away from her and then back. ‘He was here a minute ago, but he went.’ ‘Oh!’ She put her hands behind her back and leaned against the door frame so that her body was thrown forward. ‘You’re the new fellas that just come, ain’t ya?’ ‘Yeah.’ Lennie’s eyes moved down her body, and though she did not seem to be looking at Lennie she bridled a little. She looked at her fingernails. ‘Sometimes Curley’s in here,’ she explained. George said brusquely, ‘Well, he ain’t now.’ ‘If he ain’t, I guess I better look someplace else,’ she said playfully. Lennie watched her, fascinated. George said, ‘If I see him, I’ll pass the word you was looking for him.’ She smiled archly and twitched her body. ‘Nobody can’t blame a person for lookin’,’ she said.

1. The technique of is used in the line/phrase “.....”

.....

The effect of this technique is

.....

2. The technique of is used in the line/phrase “.....”

.....

The effect of this technique is

.....

3. The technique of is used in the line/phrase “.....”

.....

The effect of this technique is

.....

Task 3: Character

Due: _____

Success criteria:

- Using the quotes, write down what you discover about each character

Assessment method:

- Self/peer assessment during starter

1. Curley's wife

Slim's voice came through the door. 'Hi, Good-lookin'.' 'I'm tryin' to find Curley, Slim.' 'Well, you ain't tryin' very hard. I seen him goin' in your house.' She was suddenly apprehensive. 'Bye, boys,' she called into the bunk house, and she hurried away.

What do you discover about Curley's Wife?

2. Candy (speaking to Curley's wife)

But a change came over old Candy. He stood up suddenly and knocked his nail keg over backward. "I had enough," he said angrily. "You ain't wanted here. We told you you ain't. An' I tell ya, you got floozy idears about what us guys amounts to."

What do you discover about Candy?

3. Lennie

Lennie covered his face with his huge paws and bleated with terror. He cried, 'Make 'um stop, George.' Then Curley attacked his stomach and cut off his wind.

What do you discover about Lennie?

4. Crooks (talking to Lennie)

'My old man had a chicken ranch, 'bout ten acres. The white kids come to play at our place, an' sometimes I went to play with them, and some of them was pretty nice. My ol' man didn't like that. I never knew till long later why he didn't like that. But I know now.'

What do you discover about Crooks?

Task 4: Settings

Due: _____

Success criteria:

- Read through the extract and highlight anywhere we get a sense of the setting.
- Answer the questions on the next page.

Assessment method:

- Marking in class

A few miles south of Soledad, the Salinas River drops in close to the hillside bank and runs deep and green. The water is warm too, for it has slipped twinkling over the yellow sands in the sunlight before reaching the narrow pool. On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up the strong and rocky Gabilan mountains, but on the valley side the water is lined with trees – willows fresh and green with every spring, carrying in their lower leaf junctures the debris of the winter's flooding; and sycamores with mottles, white, recumbent limbs and branches that arch over the pool. On the sandy bank under the trees the leaves lie deep and so crisp that a lizard makes a great skittering if he runs among them. Rabbits come out of the brush to sit on the sand in the evening, and the damp flats are covered with the night tracks of 'coons, and with the spread pads of dogs from the ranches, and with the split-wedge tracks of deer that come to drink in the dark.

There is a path through the willows and among the sycamores, a path beaten hard by boys coming down from the ranches to swim in the deep pool and beaten hard by tramps who come wearily down from the highway in the evening to jungle-up near water. In front of the low horizontal limb of a giant sycamore tree there is an ash-pile made by many fires; the limb is worn smooth by men who have sat on it.

Evening of a hot day started the little wind to moving among the leaves. The shade climbed up the hills toward the top. On the sand-banks the rabbits sat quietly as little grey, sculptured stones. And then from the direction of the state highway came the sound of sycamore leaves. The rabbits hurried noiselessly for cover. A stilted heron laboured up in to the air and pounded down river. For a moment the place was lifeless, and then two men emerged from the path and came into the opening by the green pool. They had both walked in single file down the path, and even in the open one stayed behind the other. Both were dressed in denim trousers and in denim coats with brass buttons. Both wore black, shapeless hats and both carried tight blanket rolls carried over their shoulders. The first man was small and quick, dark of face with restless eyes and sharp, strong features. Every part of him was defined; small strong hands, slender arms, a thin and bony nose. Behind him walked his opposite, a huge man, shapeless of face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws. His arms did not swing at his sides, but hung loosely.

Setting and atmosphere

1. Where is the opening of the novel set?

2. What is the atmosphere in the setting before the arrival of the two men? Use a quote and justify your answer.

3. How does the atmosphere change when they arrive? What happens to the animals?

Structure

4. How are the descriptions developed in each paragraph? What is described or introduced in each? How does the focus (think camera shot) change and to what?

Paragraph One

Paragraph Two

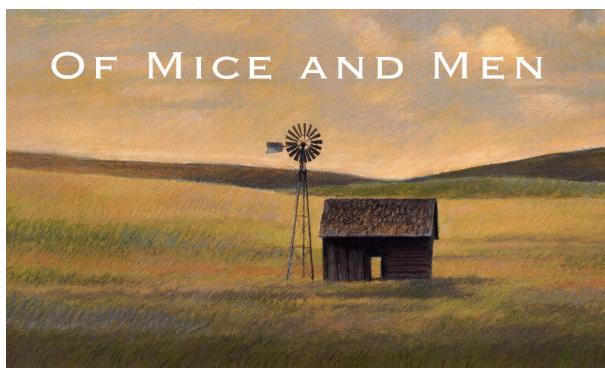
Paragraph Three

Task 5: Settings Due: _____

Success criteria: Use the images to write 3 high quality descriptions

Assessment method: Peer assessment box

1.



Your description:

2.



Your description:

3.



Your description:

Peer Assessment

What is your favourite line/phrase used?

What technique/s are you impressed by?

What 1 target would you give?

Task 6: Creative writing

Due: _____

Success criteria: Write a full description of the following scene from the novel

Assessment method: Teacher assessment – yellow sticker



Success Criteria

1. ACOMPASS techniques
 2. Accurate use of spelling and punctuation
 3. Varied sentence structures
 4. Powerful vocabulary
 5. Clear and linked paragraphing

Lennie crushes Curley's hand