

Thesis Statement Examples for *Of Mice and Men*

Loneliness comes from being treated differently.

An individual's limitations can often propel someone to dream bigger than those without limitations.

Sometimes the mark of a true friend is determined by how that friend handles difficult situations.

*Self-alienation is used as a coping mechanism in Of Mice and Men and is seen through the characters of George, Crooks, and Candy.

*Friendship and loyalty is shown through reciprocal relationships in Of Mice and Men, particularly through George, Lennie, and Candy.

*Curley's wife is the most alienated character in the novel Of Mice and Men as displayed through her namelessness, physical separation, and perception of her by the men on the ranch.

*Prejudging is a predominant theme of Of Mice and Men and can be best seen through Curley's wife, Lennie, and Crooks.

*Class differences create the most tension in Of Mice and Men; this stark contrast can be best seen through Crooks, George, Slim, and The Boss.

*The characters in Of Mice and Men have unrealistic dreams given their circumstances, specifically with George, Candy, and Curley's wife.

*The characters make dreams that cannot be achieved in Of Mice and Men and is seen through George, Candy, and Curley's wife.

*George needed Lennie just as much as Lennie needed George in Of Mice and Men which is clear through his actions, comments, and plans for the future.

*Loneliness is shown in various ways in Of Mice and Men, specifically loneliness for land, loneliness for attention, and loneliness for companionship.

*Handicap characters are hastily judged by others in Of Mice and Men; this is evident through Crooks, Candy, and Lennie.

*Migrant workers choose to be lonely in Of Mice and Men, which is clearly shown through games of solitaire, alienation of others, and migrant life in general.

*In Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck expresses through Crooks and Curley's wife the deep sense of loneliness composed from broken dreams and loss of realism.

*The character Crooks becomes a broken man in Of Mice and Men through extreme racism shown by The Boss, Curley, and Curley's wife.

Unacceptable or insufficient thesis statements

*The theme loneliness and alienation is present in Of Mice and Men.

(This doesn't work; I've already told you the theme exists. You can't just repeat back its existence. You could, however, argue which characters BEST displayed this theme.)

*Crooks is prejudged in Of Mice and Men.

(This is simple plot recap. Remember; you are not writing a book report. Do not simply repeat back plot events or facts for 3-5 pages. You must analyze!)

*Of Mice and Men excellently displays life during The Great Depression.

(This has potential but would need to be fleshed out and related to your lens somehow; it would also need arguable parameters, a task that would likely be difficult).

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