

Of Mice and Men

by John Steinbeck

Definitions



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Definitions



1.	aloof	uh LOOF	apart, indifferent	
	Synonyms >>	detached, incurious, unconcerned		
		Antonym >>	integrated; friendly	
	The woman remained aloof during the party, separating herself from everyone else.			
	Derivatives >>	aloofness		
2.	appreciate	uh PREE she ate	to increase in value	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to decrease in value	
	My home has appreciated in value by \$10,000.			
	Derivatives >>	appreciation, appreciator, appreciated, appreciating, appreciative, appreciatively, appreciativeness, appreciatory		
3.	apprehend	a pre HEND	to seize, arrest, take into custody; to understand; become aware of	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> turn loose	
	Fortunately the police apprehended the man who stole my television.			
	Derivatives >>	apprehender, apprehensible, apprehensibility, apprehension		
4.	belligerent	buh LIJ er unt	waging war; inclined to or exhibiting assertiveness	
	Synonyms >>	bellicose, pugnacious, combative, contentious, quarrelsome		
		Antonym >>	peaceful	
	A belligerent nation always seems to be at war.			
	Derivatives >>	belligerence, belligerency, belligerently		
5.	bemuse	buh MUZE	to confuse or to bewilder	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to enlighten	
	He did not intend to bemuse the class with his ambiguous remarks.			
	Derivatives >>	bemused		
6.	brittle	BREH tul	fragile, frail, easily damaged	
	Synonyms >>	fragile, frangible, friable		
		Antonym >>	flexible	
	The old man's brittle bones broke easily.			
	Derivatives >>			
7.	complacency	kum PLAY sun see	the state of being self-satisfied	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> dissatisfaction	
	Considering that he is failing, it is curious to see his sense of complacency.			
	Derivatives >>	complacent, complacently, complacence, complaisant, complaisance, complaisantly		
8.	derision	deh REH zhun	scoffing at, mockery, ridicule	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> applause	
	The boy received much derision for his plaid gym shorts.			
	Derivatives >>	derisive, derisiveness, derisively, derisory		
9.	imperious	im PEER ee us	extremely overbearing	
	Synonyms >>	domineering, imperative, masterful, preemptory		
		Antonym >>	meek	
	The imperious behavior of the dictator led to his overthrow.			
	Derivatives >>	imperiously, imperiousness		
10.	indignation	in dig NAY shun	anger as a result of something unjust	
	Synonyms >>	fury, ire, rage, wrath		
		Antonym >>	serenity	
	I have much indignation about the light sentence given to the drunk driver who ran over my child .			
	Derivatives >>	indignant, indignantly, indignance, indignify, indignities		
11.	juncture	JUNGK chur	a point of joining	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> separation	
	His new book emphasizes the importance of the juncture of poetry and music into a new art form.			
	Derivatives >>	junctural, junctional		

12.	mollify	MOL eh fie	to soothe or to appease, to assuage
	Synonyms >>	conciliate, pacify, placate, propitiate	
			Antonym >> to aggravate
		The woman promised to buy candy in order to mollify her screaming child.	
13.	monotony	moh NOT uh nee	sameness
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> diversity
		There is so much monotony in my life that I need a change	
14.	morose	muh ROSE	being sullen or gloomy
	Synonyms >>	crabbed, glum, saturnine, sulky, surly	
			Antonym >> cheerful
		He was very morose after his wife left him.	
15.	mottled	MOT uld	marked with spots of different color
	Synonyms >>	spotted, blotched	
			Antonym >> evenly colored
		The floor was covered with mottled linoleum.	
16.	ominous	OM uh nus	threatening
	Synonyms >>	fateful, portentous	
			Antonym >> harmless; non-threatening
		The ominous clouds were harbingers of the tornado.	
17.	plaintive	PLANE tiv	mournful and expressing sorrow
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> joyful
		The dog moaned in a plaintive manner when her puppies were taken.	
18.	pugnacious	pug NAY shus	looking for a fight, combative, belligerent
	Synonyms >>	bellicose, contentious, quarrelsome	
			Antonym >> peaceful
		There are many pugnacious punks at the high school that bully other students.	
19.	relish	REL ish	to take great pleasure or delight in
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> to detest
		I relish the thought of graduating from high school and getting out on my own.	
20.	reprehensible	rep reh HEN suh bul	deserving blame or reprimand
	Synonyms >>	blameworthy, censurable, condemnable, reprobatory	
			Antonym >> praiseworthy
		Some think that kissing on the first date is reprehensible conduct.	
21.	revere	reh VERE	to honor, to regard with respect
	Synonyms >>	adore, venerate, worship	
			Antonym >> to despise
		Nearly all Catholics revere the Pope.	
22.	scuttle	SKUT ul	to sink (usually a ship)
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> to preserve
		In war a captain of a ship might scuttle his vessel rather than have it captured and used by the enemy.	
23.	slough	SLUF	to cast off
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> to grasp; to hold tenaciously
		He sloughs off criticism like water off a duck's back.	
24.	stilted	STIL ted	artificially formal, stiff, pompous
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> genuine
		The demeanor of English royalty seems stilted to many Americans.	
25.	wispy	WIS pee	small in amount, fragile, or slight
	Synonyms >>		
			Antonym >> substantial
		A baby hummingbird is a wispy little creature.	
	Derivatives >>	wispily, wispiness, wispish, wisps	

26.

wooden

WOOD un

stiff, clumsy

Synonyms >>

Antonym >>

graceful

The dancer's wooden movements quickly eliminated her from the troupe.

Derivatives >>

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These words which appear in **Of Mice and Men** have been identified as words or derivatives of words that have appeared on past SAT tests. They are listed here in alphabetical order.

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- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. aloof | 14. morosely |
| 2. appreciation | 15. mottled |
| 3. apprehension | 16. ominously |
| 4. belligerently | 17. plaintively |
| 5. bemused | 18. pugnacious |
| 6. brittle | 19. relish |
| 7. complacently | 20. reprehensible |
| 8. derision | 21. reverently |
| 9. imperiously | 22. scuttled |
| 10. indignation | 23. slough |
| 11. junctures | 24. stilted |
| 12. mollified | 25. wisps |
| 13. monotonous | 26. woodenly |

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| 1. junctures | 14. derision |
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| 6. relish | 19. appreciation |
| 7. mollified | 20. aloof |
| 8. pugnacious | 21. apprehension |
| 9. ominously | 22. indignation |
| 10. slough | 23. wisps |
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| 12. brittle | 25. monotonous |
| 13. complacently | 26. woodenly |

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Vocabulary Test

Directions: Match the word in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.

Exercise A

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-------------|----|---|
| _____ | 1. | aloof | a. | scoffing at; mockery; ridicule |
| _____ | 2. | appreciate | b. | to confuse or bewilder |
| _____ | 3. | apprehend | c. | a point of joining |
| _____ | 4. | belligerent | d. | to increase in value |
| _____ | 5. | bemuse | e. | fragile; frail; easily damaged |
| _____ | 6. | brittle | f. | to soothe or appease; assuage |
| _____ | 7. | complacency | g. | apart; indifferent |
| _____ | 8. | derision | h. | extremely overbearing |
| _____ | 9. | imperious | i. | state of being self-satisfied |
| _____ | 10. | indignation | j. | to seize, arrest, or take into custody; understand |
| _____ | 11. | junction | k. | sameness |
| _____ | 12. | mollify | l. | waging war; inclined to or exhibiting assertiveness |
| _____ | 13. | monotony | m. | anger as a result of something unjust |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|---------------|----|---|
| _____ | 14. | morose | k. | to honor; to regard with respect |
| _____ | 15. | mottled | l. | threatening |
| _____ | 16. | ominous | m. | to sink ... usually a ship |
| _____ | 17. | plaintive | n. | mournful and expressing sorrow |
| _____ | 18. | pugnacious | o. | being sullen or gloomy |
| _____ | 19. | relish | p. | to cast off |
| _____ | 20. | reprehensible | q. | marked with spots of different color |
| _____ | 21. | revere | r. | artificially formal; pompous |
| _____ | 22. | scuttle | s. | deserving blame or reprimand |
| _____ | 23. | slough | t. | small in amount; fragile; slight |
| _____ | 24. | stilted | u. | looking for a fight; combative; belligerent |
| _____ | 25. | wispy | v. | stiff and clumsy |
| _____ | 26. | wooden | w. | to take great pleasure or delight in |

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EXERCISE A

1. G
2. D
3. J
4. L
5. B
6. E
7. I
8. A
9. H
10. M
11. C
12. F
13. K

EXERCISE B

14. O
15. Q
16. L
17. N
18. U
19. W
20. S
21. K
22. M
23. P
24. R
25. T
26. V