**Lesson 1: *Of Mice and Men* Vocabulary List**

1. [aloof](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/aloof) - remote in manner

*This room was swept and fairly neat, for Crooks was a proud,* ***aloof****man.*

\*emotionally distant; removed.

1. [appraise](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/appraise) - consider in a comprehensive way

*She****appraised****him coolly.*

1. [apprehension](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/apprehension) - fearful expectation or anticipation

*Lennie’s face wrinkled with****apprehension****.*

1. [bait](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/bait) - lure, entice, or entrap

*Lennie avoided the****bait****.*

1. [bemuse](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/bemuse) - cause to be confused emotionally
2. [brusque](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/brusque) - rudely abrupt or blunt in speech or manner
3. [cower](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/cower) - crouch or curl up

*He crouched****cowering****against the wall.*

1. [crestfallen](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/crestfallen) - brought low in spirit

*Candy was****crestfallen****.*

1. [cringe](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/cringe) - draw back, as with fear, pain, or embarrassment

*She whimpered and****cringed****to the packing box, and jumped in among the puppies.*

1. [derision](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/derision) - the act of treating with contempt

*Through the open door came the thuds and occasional clangs of a horseshoe game, and now and then the sound of voices raised in approval or****derision****.*

1. [derogatory](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/derogatory) - expressive of low opinion

*He had drawn a****derogatory****statement from ...*

1. [fawning](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/fawning) - attempting to win favor by flattery

*Lennie gulped and his smile grew more****fawning****.*

1. [indignation](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/indignation) - a feeling of righteous anger

*She was breathless with****indignation****.*

1. [jeer](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/jeer) - laugh at with contempt and derision

*From outside came the clang of horseshoes on the playing peg and the shouts of men, playing, encouraging,****jeering****.*

1. [mimic](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/mimic) - imitate, especially for satirical effect

*He took on the elaborate manner of little girls when they are****mimicking****one another.*

1. [pugnacious](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/pugnacious) - ready and able to resort to force or violence

*His glance was at once calculating and****pugnacious****.*

1. [rapt](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/rapt) - feeling great delight and interest

*He looked****raptly****at the wall over Lennie’s head.*

1. [recumbent](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/recumbent) - lying down; in a position of comfort or rest

*On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up to 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 mottled, white,****recumbent*** *limbs and branches that arch over the pool.*

1. [retort](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/retort) - answer back

*Now Lennie retorted belligerently, “He ain’t neither.*

1. [scorn](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/scorn) - lack of respect accompanied by a feeling of intense dislike

*She turned on him in****scorn****.*

1. [scourge](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/scourge) - something causing misery or death

*“Says ‘positively kills lice, roaches and other****scourges****.’*

1. [slough](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/slough) - cast off hair, skin, horn, or feathers

*He’d****slough****me.*

1. [snivel](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/snivel) - cry or whine with snuffling

*He****sniveled****, and his voice shook.*

1. [tramp](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/tramp) - a foot traveler; someone who goes on an extended walk

*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.*

1. [writhe](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/writhe) - move in a twisting or contorted motion

*Her feet battered on the hay and she****writhed****to be free; and from under Lennie’s hand came a muffled screaming.*