

Of Mice and Men

by John Steinbeck

Definitions



Of Mice and Men

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.		
	Derivatives >>	mollification, mollifyingly, mollifier, mollifiable	
13.	monotony	moh NOT uh nee	sameness
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> diversity
	There is so much monotony in my life that I need a change		
	Derivatives >>	monotonousness, monotonously, monotonous, monotonousness, monotonist	
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.		
	Derivatives >>	morosely, moroseness, morosity	
15.	mottled	MOT uld	marked with spots of different color
	Synonyms >>	spotted, blotched	Antonym >> evenly colored
	The floor was covered with mottled linoleum.		
	Derivatives >>	mottle, mottles, mottlings	
16.	ominous	OM uh nus	threatening
	Synonyms >>	fateful, portentous	Antonym >> harmless; non-threatening
	The ominous clouds were harbingers of the tornado.		
	Derivatives >>	ominously, ominousness	
17.	plaintive	PLANE tiv	mournful and expressing sorrow
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> joyful
	The dog moaned in a plaintive manner when her puppies were taken.		
	Derivatives >>	plaintively, plaintiveness	
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.		
	Derivatives >>	pugnaciously, pugnaciousness, pugnacity	
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.		
	Derivatives >>	relishable, relished, relishing	
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.		
	Derivatives >>	reprehend, reprehensibility, reprehensibly, reprehension, reprehensive, reprehensory	
21.	revere	reh VERE	to honor, to regard with respect
	Synonyms >>	adore, venerate, worship	Antonym >> to despise
	Nearly all Catholics revere the Pope.		
	Derivatives >>	reverence, reverent, reverentness, reverential, reverentiality, reverentially	
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.		
	Derivatives >>	scuttled, scuttling	
23.	slough	SLUF	to cast off
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to grasp; to hold tenaciously
	He sloughs off criticism like water off a duck's back.		
	Derivatives >>	sloughs, sloughy	
24.	stilted	STIL ted	artificially formal, stiff, pompous
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> genuine
	The demeanor of English royalty seems stilted to many Americans.		
	Derivatives >>	stiltedly, stiltedness	
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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| 9. ominously | 22. indignation |
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| 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