

Of Mice and Men

CHAPTER 2 ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY

Character Analysis

Characterization is the method used by a writer to develop how the character looks, acts, and thinks.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following passage from the novel and answer the questions that follow it. Refer directly to the passage for support. Answer in complete sentences.

“He ain’t no cuckoo,” said George. “He’s dumb as hell, but he ain’t crazy. An’ I ain’t so bright neither, or I wouldn’t be buckin’ barley for my fifty and found. If I was bright, if I was even a little bit smart, I’d have my own little place, an’ I’d be bringin’ in my own crops, ‘stead of doin’ all the work and not getting what comes up outa the ground.” George fell silent. He wanted to talk. Slim neither encouraged nor discouraged him. He just sat back quiet and receptive.

1. Why does George feel that he’s not intelligent?

2. Why does George need to talk?

3. Why does Slim neither encourage nor discourage George from talking?

OPEN-RESPONSE: Compose a well-structured paragraph responding to the following prompt on the back of this page. Use at least one quote from the book to support your answer.

Describe the atmosphere of the ranch and bunkhouse. Be sure to include characteristics of different characters that were formally or informally introduced to us in this chapter.

