

Honors 10 – Summer Reading Assignment

As you should know, Active Reading is important to your success as an English student; when you Actively Read, you actually learn, and you give the text a deeper meaning.

Below, you will see several different Active Reading Strategies (ARS). As you read *Of Mice and Men*, it is your task to choose two ARS per chapter to use **for a total of 12**.

You will need to write the number that coordinates with your chosen ARS; take down a few notes over the chapter; provide a quote that supports your ARS; and discuss the ARS within the chapter. Follow the model on the back of this page—again, you should have two entries per chapter for a total of 12. Type or handwrite your assignment and bring it with you on the first day of school.

- 1) Take note of statements that seem to address something bigger than what is happening on the surface of the plot. What is the author really saying about life or human nature?
- 2) Look for comparisons or contrasts. What insight can be gained by these similarities or differences?
- 3) Look for insight in the characters. What do the characters words and actions show us about human nature?
- 4) What are (or could be) the consequences or ramifications of an event or statement?
- 5) Look for figurative language. What insight, lesson, or point is provided by the simile, metaphor, or symbol?
- 6) Evaluate. Ask, “Are these actions or attitudes being criticized or applauded by the author?”
- 7) Look for places where key concepts or ideas are linked or connected to each other. Ask, “Where else have I seen this concept in the novel?”
- 8) Read between the lines. Ask, “What can be implied or inferred by this statement or event?” What is the unstated point, idea, or conclusion?
- 9) What’s the life lesson and how might it affect the character?

Each ARS must be used at least once.

